Super Camps at Beacon School



The Beacon School, 15 Amersham Road, Chesham Bois, AMERSHAM, Buckinghamshire, HP6 5PF

Inspection date	19 February 2015
Previous inspection date	2 August 2011

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
How well the early years provision mee range of children who attend	ts the needs of the	Good	2
The contribution of the early years provof children	rision to the well-being	Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and early years provision	management of the	Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff make good use of the outdoor environments to provide first hand learning experiences for children. For example, they use nature walks to extend children's understanding of the world and language development.
- Staff promote children's social skills effectively. For example, they supervise groups well so that children invite others to join their play.
- Staff consistently teach children procedures such as fire evacuations. As a result, children build a strong awareness of how to keep themselves and others safe.
- The management team provide strong training on safeguarding children. As a result, staff are confident on the procedures to follow if they have a concern about a child's welfare. They clearly state who they would contact to report an allegation or seek further advice.

It is not yet outstanding because:

Staff do not always gather information from all parents on children's interests and abilities from the start, to help support and extend their development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

strengthen the strategies to gather information from all parents on children's interests and abilities from the start, to help support and extend their all-round development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector had a discussion with the staff, children and manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback.
- The inspector looked at a ranged of relevant documentation relating to safeguarding, suitability records, policies and procedures, and learning and development.

Inspector

Helen Porter

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Staff have a very good understanding of how to promote children's all-round learning. For example, when creating a 'nature caf' staff use skilful questions to encourage children to share their own thoughts and ideas. They use the outdoor areas to encourage them to explore their knowledge of nature. Children develop their literacy and artistic skills as staff encourage them to draw what they see outdoors. Staff teach them letter formation as they encourage children to have a go at copying letters to make signs for their caf. Staff provide children with plenty of opportunities to exercise and develop their physical skills. They play ball games indoors and have lots of challenging equipment outside such as climbing frames. The management team have created an in-depth starting form to gather information from parents about children's interests and capabilities. However, staff do not encourage all parents to complete and return these forms. This means some children start and their interests and developmental needs are unknown. Staff effectively monitor children's achievements and share these with parents regularly. They know where to seek support from other professionals should they have a concern about a child's needs or if there are gaps in children's learning.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Staff are very welcoming and friendly and this helps children to settle in quickly and well. They are very good role models as they teach children how to behave well. For example, children hold doors for each other. These acts of kindness help children to form friendships quickly. Staff strongly promote children's health and awareness of safety. They teach them rules such as not sharing food during meal times. Children explain that it is to make sure that children do not eat foods they may be allergic to. Children learn to be independent as staff encourage them to wash their own hands and pour their own drinks of water, when thirsty.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The manager is strongly supported by the well-established head office team. The robust recruitment and induction procedures have a strong focus on safeguarding. As a result, staff are all aware of how to help keep children safe. They carry out thorough risk assessments of the premises to minimise any hazards. The management team monitor staff performance during each school holiday and effectively share information with the variety of camp managers. This helps the managers to continue to support staff and identify further training needs when necessary. The management team gather the views of parents and children on their last day. For example, parents complete regular questionnaires and staff encourage children to complete their own feedback forms. This helps staff to reflect on the provision when completing self-evaluations.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY391976

Local authorityBuckinghamshire

Inspection number 993907

Type of provisionOut of school provision

Registration category Childcare - Non-Domestic

Age range of children 0 - 8

Total number of places 100

Number of children on roll 42

Name of provider Super Camps Ltd

Date of previous inspection 2 August 2011

Telephone number 01235 832 222

Super Camps at The Beacon School was registered in 2009. It operates from The Beacon School, in the Chesham Bois area of Amersham, Buckinghamshire. It is open five days a week during the school holidays from 8.00am until 6.00pm. The staff are arranged before each school holiday. There are currently four staff, one of whom holds a level 3 childcare qualification. The manager holds qualified teacher status.

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