

Super Camps @ Royal Grammar School



Royal Grammar School, Amersham Road, HIGH WYCOMBE, Buckinghamshire, HP13 6QT

Inspection date

30 March 2015

Previous inspection date

22 February 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Requires improvement	3
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Weaknesses in the staffing arrangements impact on the ability of staff to consistently meet the children's individual needs.
- The provider has not taken account of the layout of the premises to ensure that the manager, who is the only member of staff with first-aid training, is available to respond quickly to emergency situations.
- The range of toys and resources available does not fully extend children's independent choices.

It has the following strengths

- The children enjoy coming to their club and they have fun and relax with their friends during the school holidays.
- Partnerships with parents are established and information is shared about the children's care and daily activities.
- The manager is reflective in practice and she seeks the views of the staff, children and parents as part of the self-evaluation process.
- The provider supports staff to develop their knowledge and skills on training courses. For example, the manager and staff have good knowledge of local safeguarding procedures to manage child protection concerns should they arise. Staff induction is thorough and, therefore, staff are aware of the camp's policies and procedures.
- Children enjoy fresh air and exercise, and follow suitable hygiene practices during the routine of the day.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- ensure staffing arrangements meet the needs of the children, so that children's play is not interrupted unnecessarily
- improve the deployment of staff to ensure a member of staff with paediatric first aid is able to respond to emergencies quickly.

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

- build on existing toys and resources to provide children with further choices during child-initiated play times.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outside.
- The inspector had discussions with children and staff.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with a member of staff.
- The inspector looked at comments from parents, the self-evaluation form and a selection of policies and children's records.

Inspector

Kim Mundy

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement

Children are kind towards one another and they play well together. The staff encourage their confidence as they recall events in their lives at group times. Children are proud to be the helper of the day and enjoy caring for the camp bear. Children experience many fun activities, such as art and crafts, cooking, and going on the bouncy castle. However, the range of toys and resources for them to select independently in their base room is limited. Children are involved in their play, but this is disrupted when a child needs to go to the toilet. All children have to stop what they are doing and go downstairs to the toilets together. This is because the staffing arrangements do not allow staff to consistently meet the children's individual needs. Children have great fun in the pool. A member of staff gets in the water with the children, and the manager and a lifeguard are also present, overseeing the session to ensure safety. Children thoroughly enjoy outdoor play activities and use their imaginations to act out and make up their own stories.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children requires improvement

Children express fondness towards the kind and professional staff who are responsible for coordinating their time in the camp. New children are welcomed and they settle quickly at the activities. Parents provide packed lunches and children follow suitable hygiene routines, such as washing their hands before they enjoy sociable mealtimes. There are water stations to encourage children to drink regularly. Although there are weaknesses in some aspects of the safeguarding arrangements, staff support children to learn to keep themselves safe. For example, they teach them to use scissors safely and they practise the fire evacuation procedure.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement

The manager of the camp is organised and she understands her responsibilities to meet the safeguarding and welfare requirements, but is hindered in promoting these effectively. This is because the provider has not considered the layout of the premises and the ability of the camp manager, in her role as the first-aider, to act quickly in the event of an emergency across the different areas. This does not promote children's safety as activities take place in the children's base room, outdoor play areas and the swimming pool in a separate building. In addition, the reliance on one member of staff to look after a large group of children has a negative impact on the quality of children's play experiences. There are effective procedures for recruitment and to maintain the ongoing suitability of staff. The manager and staff plan many worthwhile activities, which help children to build on their existing skills. Children complete 'passports' about themselves and their activities in the club, which they share with parents.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY348018
Local authority	Buckinghamshire
Inspection number	844100
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 8
Total number of places	68
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	Super Camps Ltd
Date of previous inspection	22 February 2011
Telephone number	01235 832222

Super Camps @Royal Grammar School registered in 2007. The camp is open from 8.00am until 6.00pm and operates for specific weeks during the school holidays. The member of staff working with children in the early years age range holds relevant qualifications to level 3 and the manager of the camp is qualified to degree level.

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