

Churchill Summer Camps

The Peterborough School, Thorpe Road, PETERBOROUGH, PE3 6AP



Inspection date

9 April 2015

Previous inspection date

29 March 2010

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The leadership and management is strong. There is a good emphasis on staff professional development and ensuring that policies and procedures are known and implemented consistently.
- Staff supervise the children well during their activities and keep them safe. They have a thorough knowledge of safeguarding and understand their responsibilities to protect children from abuse or neglect.
- Children benefit from a broad range of age-appropriate activities that are well balanced with a mixture of free play, creative and sporting experiences.
- Recruitment and induction procedures are robust to ensure staff are suitable and have the necessary skills to support children's care and learning well.
- Children understand their boundaries because staff have consistent expectations of good behaviour. As a result, children are well behaved, sociable and caring towards each other.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- In a few instances children lose interest in activities because staff do not encourage them to be involved in the planning and preparation.
- Children's healthy lifestyles are not consistently promoted because sugary sweets and chocolate are offered at snack time.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's motivation and their sense of responsibility, by enabling them to be more involved in the planning and setting up of their activities
- enhance children's good health at snack times, by providing nutritious, well-balanced foods, for example, fruits and breads.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children and the activities they took part in.
- The inspector looked at areas of the premises used by the children and staff.
- A selection of documents were looked at including evidence of staff suitability checks, training records, some policies and procedures and the self-evaluation plan.
- The inspector had a meeting with the provider and spoke with managers and staff during the inspection.
- The views of parents were taken into account through surveys and testimonials.

Inspector

Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

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

Children thoroughly enjoy their time at this friendly camp. They build upon skills gained in school and develop confidence in new experiences, such as circus skills and archery. Younger children have their own varied programme of activities where there is time for relaxation in between more active games. During planned periods of free play they make choices from a range of resources, such as, dressing up clothes, drawing materials or construction toys. Staff use their good teaching skills to support children's learning. For example, children are encouraged to make up songs or count out loud. At times, staff ask children to wait while they set-up equipment for structured activities, rather than enabling them to help. As a result, children lose some motivation and opportunities to extend their self-reliance are overlooked.

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

An effective key-person system enables children to quickly develop good relationships with staff. Children spend time in their base groups and staff plan social games to help children to get to know others. Many children return each holiday and are delighted to pick up previous friendships. Enjoyable sports-related activities, such as ball games and treasure hunts, encourage children to develop healthy lifestyles. However, this is not fully supported at snack times when children can buy sweets and chocolate instead of healthier options, such as fruit or breads. Staff teach children to keep themselves safe effectively as, for example, they explain the appropriate uses of crossbows and quad bikes.

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

The managers and staff have a good understanding of the legal requirements. They evaluate the activities and routines and collect the views of children and parents to plan improvements. Recruitment procedures effectively ensure that staff are safe and suitable. The staff team is a well-balanced mix of qualified childcare staff, teachers, students and sports coaches. This ensures children are well supported in their activities. All staff undertake essential training in first aid and child protection, which helps to keep children safe. Parents receive ample information about the camp and the activities before children attend. Testimonials show parents and carers are pleased with the quality of care and the range of activities. Staff collect initial details of children's interests and abilities so that activities meet their individual learning needs. While contact with schools is not always possible the camp staff endeavour to gather information from them to support continuity of care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY391886
Local authority	Peterborough
Inspection number	992055
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 14
Total number of places	100
Number of children on roll	58
Name of provider	Churchill Summer Camps Partnership
Date of previous inspection	29 March 2010
Telephone number	01780 753461

Churchill Summer Camps has been in operation for 11 years and re-registered under new ownership in 2009. The playscheme operates during all school holidays. It opens between the core hours of 9.30am to 4.30pm, but offers optional earlier and later hours from 8am until 6pm according to parental need. There are currently 30 members of staff available to work at the three Churchill Summer Camp sites. This site currently has 10 members of staff working each day. Of these, three hold Qualified Teacher Status and one holds a teaching assistant qualification at level 2.

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