

# Ultimate Activity Camps at St Gabriel's School



St. Gabriels School, Sandleford Priory, Newtown Road, Newtown, NEWBURY, Berkshire, RG20 9BD

<b>Inspection date</b>	28 July 2015
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is outstanding

- Children thoroughly enjoy coming to the activity camp. Instructors are highly effective in their interactions with children, giving them plenty of consistent and positive praise. Consequently, children are extremely confident, feel very secure and thrive at the activity camp.
- Instructors have a thorough understanding of safeguarding procedures, including the safe use of cameras and mobile phones. They are fully aware of the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child, and are vigilant in protecting children from harm.
- Instructors are extremely dedicated. They skilfully assess and monitor children's abilities to plan a wonderful range of challenging activities and experiences indoors and outside. Consequently, children learn excellent new skills that complement their learning at school.
- Leadership and management are excellent, which results in very rigorous monitoring systems to improve outcomes for children.
- All instructors have a robust understanding of the camp's policies and procedures, which means they promote children's safety and well-being to an extremely high standard.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the information provided to parents about the scheduled activities, so they can increase the support they provide their children.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises and completed a joint observation with the operations manager.
- The inspector held discussions with managers.
- The inspector observed a variety of activities both inside and outside.
- The inspector looked a range of documents, including some policies, procedures and risk assessments.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and instructors' qualifications.

### Inspector

Jane Franks

## Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is outstanding in this highly stimulating activity camp. Children enjoy an excellent range of sporting activities and games. The experienced and highly qualified instructors are very enthusiastic. They have high expectations and innovative ideas that challenge children to learn new skills. For example, children develop control and co-ordination taking part in a range of ball games. They enjoy swimming activities and gain confidence in the water. Exceptional planning and organisation by staff encourage children to explore and investigate their natural environments. Children excitedly look for leaves for craft activities. They learn about nature as they come across bugs and insects. Older children enjoy a wealth of outdoor activities and have wonderful opportunities to learn new skills, such as fencing, in a safe environment.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding**

Instructors spend time getting to know children well. When children arrive at the setting, they discuss the activities children can take part in during the day. Consequently, children are very confident within the daily routines and settle quickly. Interactions between instructors and children demonstrate extremely strong relationships. Instructors supervise children very closely but allow them the freedom to explore and investigate. As a result, children learn to take risks and to understand safe boundaries. They listen carefully to instructions and behave exceptionally well. Instructors consistently promote healthy lifestyles and sensitively remind children to drink water throughout the day. Overall, there are strong strategies to share information with parents. However, there are fewer opportunities for parents to discuss the forthcoming activities with their children, as they are unable to access a timetable of activities in advance. Parents comment their children thoroughly enjoy their time at the activity camp.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding**

Managers meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage exceptionally well and have a thorough knowledge of the procedures to safeguard children's welfare. Very robust recruitment and vetting procedures ensure the suitability of all instructors. Managers are highly committed to improve the quality of the provision. They gather the views of instructors, children and parents to evaluate their successes and implement any areas for development. For example, they ensure all children have opportunities to take part in activities that interest them. Management provide instructors with regular and very effective supervision meetings to promote their professional development and discuss ideas of how to improve their excellent practice. Instructors attend compulsory training, including safeguarding, so their knowledge is up to date and relevant.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY460219
<b>Local authority</b>	West Berkshire (Newbury)
<b>Inspection number</b>	993014
<b>Type of provision</b>	Out of school provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	40
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	83
<b>Name of provider</b>	The Ultimate Activity Company Ltd
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable
<b>Telephone number</b>	01635 555680

Ultimate Activity Camps at St Gabriel's School registered in 2013. The early years children have access to the early years classroom and playground as their base room and also use other activity rooms and the grounds of the school. The activity camp is open in the school holidays from 8am to 6pm. There are sixteen instructors in total, of which four work directly with the early years children. Three instructors, including the early years manager, hold Qualified Teacher Status and one instructor holds a level 6 in childcare. The instructors working with the older children have a variety of qualifications. The camp's overall manager holds Qualified Teacher Status.

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