

Ultimate Activity Camps at Reddam House



Bearwood College, Winnersh, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG41 5BG

Inspection date

31 July 2017

Previous inspection date

20 August 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The company managers provide strong leadership and ensure staff meet high standards of safeguarding and child protection across the camp. They successfully recruit well-qualified and experienced staff and provide effective induction procedures.
- The high standards set by the early years managers are underpinned by their secure knowledge and skills from degree studies and practice in sports science and primary school teaching respectively. Children enjoy good-quality activities.
- Managers and staff thoroughly evaluate the quality of the services they offer to identify areas for improvement. For example, they address comments from parents and respond to guidance from other professionals to improve practice across the camps.
- Enthusiastic and encouraging staff motivate children to try new activities and develop their interests. Children soon take pride in their achievements and share their ideas.
- Children behave very well for their ages. They listen carefully, understand staff expectations and the choices available to them. They cooperate well in team games.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff and instructors do not have a sharp enough understanding of which children are new to the club or new to a school environment at the start of each day.
- The exchange of information with parents is not fully effective as some children arrive without the requested kit, food or information on prior experience.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- sharpen arrangements to share relevant information about children as promptly and efficiently as possible among the staff each day
- build on the arrangements for sharing information and working in partnership with parents to provide more continuity in children's care and participation.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed, listened to and talked with children as they played indoors and during outdoor play.
- The inspector talked with parents and listened to their views about the camp and their children's enthusiasm for attending.
- The inspector looked at children's records, discussed staff's planning and evaluation of activities and how effectively they use risk assessments.
- The inspector reviewed records and procedures relating to safeguarding, health and hygiene, and discussed a range of other procedures relating to children's welfare with senior managers.
- The inspector observed care routines and completed a joint observation with the company manager. Together they discussed how staff training had contributed to children's experiences and achievements.

Inspector

Helen Robinshaw

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management company has considerable experience in training staff to follow stringent policies and procedures to meet safeguarding and welfare requirements. The company ensures that all staff know how to recognise and respond appropriately to a wide range of potential child protection concerns. Safeguarding is effective. Managers prepare and check that staff follow detailed risk assessments for each activity and area of the camp, including the swimming pool. A lifeguard assesses children's water skills at the beginning of every session. Experienced staff skilfully rehearse safety rules with children as they plan and prepare for every activity indoors or out. Children listen attentively and confirm their good understanding of how to keep themselves safe as they discuss issues together. The management company works closely with the school to identify areas for improvement. For instance, children enjoy the diversity of artefacts added to freshly decorated corridors and classrooms.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The early years manager is particularly skilled in getting to know the children and their individual needs and interests. She has a very secure knowledge of how to engage and sustain children's enthusiasm for trying new and sometimes challenging activities. Staff deployment is consistently good and their supervision of children remains very secure as children choose to pursue different activities. Children thoroughly enjoy opportunities to catch up with siblings and friends during snack and meal times. Staff sensitively build on children's individual interests. For example, some children are curious to explore the woods and notice small differences in the fruits and leaves. Staff encourage children to extend their experiences through creative activities, such as storytelling and crafts.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

At the start of each day, staff introduce children to each other and to the staff who will be caring for them. Staff and children agree rules, such as playing fairly and sharing kindly with each other. Children respond well to the good humour of staff. For example, they roar with laughter and indignation when a member of staff suggests she will share her lunch, because they know that this type of sharing might not be good for everyone. Staff remind children of rules to prevent the spread of infection and keep each other safe. Children act responsibly and hand restricted foods, such as nuts, to staff. All staff know which team members hold current certificates in paediatric first aid and are trained to use equipment to treat allergic reactions. Staff ensure that parents discuss and supply a prescription should any medication or inhalers need to be kept or administered at the camp. Staff promptly follow clear procedures to manage and report any accidents and injuries that may occur, and they look for ways to further minimise risks.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY475122
Local authority	Wokingham
Inspection number	1071826
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	4 - 14
Total number of places	160
Number of children on roll	40
Name of registered person	The Ultimate Activity Company Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP901335
Date of previous inspection	20 August 2014
Telephone number	0330 1117077

Ultimate Activity Camps at Reddam House School registered in 2014. It is managed by Ultimate Activity Company Ltd and operates from Reddam House School, Winnersh, near Reading, Berkshire. The camp is open from 8am to 6pm during the Easter and summer school holidays and during the February and October half-term school holidays. There are 11 staff working with the children, eight of whom hold relevant qualifications at level 3 to level 6. Three members of staff are qualified teachers.

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