

Churchill Summer Camps



Stamford Junior School, Kettering Road, STAMFORD, Lincolnshire PE9 2LR

Inspection date	30 July 2019
Previous inspection date	20 July 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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 provider demonstrates a strong desire to pursue excellence in everything he does. He comments, 'I'm always in search of perfection'. There is good evidence to show that the provider wants to inspire and benefit children with any improvements he plans. For example, the provider is keen to attend some forest school training and introduce this into the camp.
- The camp environment is extremely safe and secure. Staff are very vigilant and supervise children highly effectively.
- Children appear excited and enthusiastic to attend, with many returning to the camp year after year. Staff build a strong rapport with the children. Even those children who attend the camp for the first time appear very well settled. These attachments with staff ensure children feel emotionally secure and have a strong sense of belonging.
- Staff act as superb role models for the children. They set high standards for children's behaviour. Children demonstrate a positive and respectful attitude towards adults and each other. They play cooperatively and share toys and resources.
- Staff develop good partnerships with the parents. Comprehensive information is gathered from the parents from the outset. Parents offer highly positive views about the camp. All say the range of activities are 'fantastic'. Further comments include, 'I'd say this club is outstanding', 'the staff are brilliant', and 'they are hot on safeguarding'.
- Staff provide outstanding opportunities for children to develop their physical skills. Activities on offer include rifle shooting, mini-Zumba, swimming and treasure hunts on the field and in the woodland area. However, quad biking is by far the most popular activity among the children.
- Occasionally, the structure of the planned activities means that some children lose focus and get distracted.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider the planning of structured activities to ensure children continue to remain focused in their play and learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the camp.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Sharon Alleary

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The provider, manager and staff are passionate about their work with children. They work highly effectively as a team. This is evident as some staff who are qualified teachers eagerly work at the camp during their holidays. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The management team and staff understand the procedures to follow if they are concerned about the welfare of a child in their care. The provider has secure procedures for vetting and recruiting staff. This means the staff working with the children are suitable. The manager monitors the consistency of the quality of care and play experiences that staff provide. He carries out daily observations on their interaction with children. Furthermore, the management team provides staff with plenty of opportunities to discuss practice and personal issues. The camp is only open for eight weeks of the year. However, the provider ensures staff come with professional training which benefits their practice, such as safeguarding, wider safeguarding issues and first aid. The provider gathers children's and parents' views through questionnaires as part of the camp's evaluation. This helps them to know that their views are valued and acted on.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The children spend their day in groups with others who are of a similar age. The highly qualified staff who interact with younger children work extremely effectively together to ensure children engage in safe but challenging play. Staff encourage children to think for themselves and to work out solutions. For example, when they look for clues in a treasure hunt. Staff split the group and set each group an individual challenge. Staff introduce children to new skills, such as how to use a crossbow. This contributes to their hand-to-eye coordination as they attempt to score the highest points. Since the last inspection, a new emphasis has been put on encouraging children to choose their own resources during their free-play sessions. Consequently, these sessions are popular, and children become highly engaged as they lead their own play and explore the surroundings. Children demonstrate confident speaking skills and ask questions, such as 'what does intelligent mean?' Furthermore, they share their knowledge, commenting, 'the Titanic hit an iceberg and sunk'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

At the beginning of each new week staff bring the children together as a whole group. They welcome the children, give them a tour of the camp, introduce themselves and discuss the 'camp values'. This means children can begin to enjoy themselves from the outset in the knowledge that they are secure and safe. Staff support and help children to understand how to keep safe and manage risks and challenges. For example, staff speak to them about staying behind certain boundary markers when someone is shooting the crossbow. The promotion of British values is at the heart of the camp's work. Children learn about listening to and respecting others and that having their own personality is important. Children who attend the camp come from a large range of local schools. Often they do not know each other when they start. Parents comment that deep friendships have been forged and children keep in touch once the camp is over.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY391890
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	10074238
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Out-of-school day care
Age range of children	4 - 12
Total number of places	100
Number of children on roll	80
Name of registered person	Churchill Summer Camps Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP523627
Date of previous inspection	20 July 2016
Telephone number	01780 753461

Churchill Summer Camps re-registered in 2009 and is situated in Stamford, Lincolnshire. The camp employs 15 members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold qualified teacher status, including the provider, and the manager holds a certificate of education. The camp 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.

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