

Inspection of United Adventure Camps - The Mount School

The Mount School, Dalton Terrace, York, Yorkshire YO24 4DD

Inspection date: 13 July 2021

**The quality and
standards of early
years provision**

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

The members of the dedicated and passionate management team are committed to providing the best quality experiences that they can for children. They accurately evaluate the quality of the camp and are constantly seeking ways to continually improve. Parents and children contribute to this process by completing online evaluations.

The atmosphere in the camp is one of fun and excitement. Staff are enthusiastic and clearly enjoy engaging with the children. They set up planned activities that motivate and promote children's enthusiasm. For instance, younger children are excited to visit the woods to make 'magic mud potions'. Older children enjoy the challenge of making a den outdoors. They confidently talk about how their den will protect them from 'storms and the sun'. Children explain how they have added a pretend trip wire so they know when other children are approaching. Staff plan activities for children which remain flexible. There are many opportunities for children to choose their own activities at 'campers' choice' times.

Children's behaviour is excellent. They remember to use good manners, and are thoughtful and caring towards each other. Children share resources well and take turns when selecting which craft tools to use. Staff are good role models and have high expectations for children's behaviour. They have a positive approach to managing children's behaviour. Staff provide children with praise and encouragement. This helps to boost children's confidence and self-esteem. Children are happy, safe and secure.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents spoken with during the inspection describe staff as 'refreshing, fun and funky'. They say that they are 'super happy' with the camp and all the exciting activities that their children take part in. Managers provide an effective online booking system to ensure that all parents are fully aware of their children's times in the camp. Staff share important information, such as policies and procedures, with parents on the online platform.
- Staff recognise that energetic play is integral to children's time at the camp. Children have excellent opportunities to be active indoors and outdoors. They delight in refining their physical skills as they competently throw balls into a basketball net. Younger children enjoy playing 'What time is it Mr Wolf?' and eagerly anticipate the chase. Staff show abundance amounts of energy as they join in with their games.
- The management team has exceptionally robust recruitment and induction

processes in place. This means that staff are thoroughly checked and vetted to ensure that they are suitable for their role. The management team is keen to make sure that all staff develop their professional skills and knowledge. Staff comment that they are happy and feel supported in their roles. The management team offers staff regular informal observations and supervision meetings help them to identify any additional training needs. This further assists staff to develop as professionals.

- Staff challenge younger children's thinking skills superbly. For instance, children are asked to make up their own spell as they add the fairy dust to the dough. Staff working with older children engage them in meaningful conversations. They give them sufficient time to think and respond to the thought-provoking questions they ask.
- Children and staff have clear routines to follow and precautions to take, in relation to COVID-19 (coronavirus). Staff greet children and parents at the gate and children's temperatures are checked and recorded. Children have responded well to these routines and are familiar with what they need to do when entering the camp.
- Children talk positively about their time at the camp. They share how they love to be outdoors in the fresh air and play football. Younger children say they enjoy making crowns and dressing up. They comment that they are very happy there and that staff are fun and kind.
- Staff support children's independence skills well. For example, younger children are encouraged to put on their own aprons before taking part in creative activities. Children bring their own food. At snack time and lunchtime, children sit down with their friends to eat. Staff make sure that all food children bring is healthy and nutritious.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff are fully aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse that children may present with. They are confident about what action to take if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. Staff complete relevant training in safeguarding. This further helps to protect children from harm. Children are cared for in a safe and secure environment. Staff use thorough risk assessments to confirm that the premises are safe and secure. They follow meticulous policies and procedures which underpin the camp's good practice. Staff consistently implement the rules restricting the use of electronic devices and mobile phones in the camp.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2567275
Local authority	York
Inspection number	10198349
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Out-of-school day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	3 to 16
Total number of places	130
Number of children on roll	223
Name of registered person	United Education Projects Limited
Registered person unique reference number	2567273
Telephone number	0113 4830280
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

United Adventure Camps - The Mount School registered in 2020. The camp employs 11 members of staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate qualifications at level 6 and one holds level 2. The camp opens during school holidays, Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Judith Bodill-Chandler

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the management team and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the camp.
- The inspector viewed the play spaces and observed interactions between the staff and children.
- The inspector spoke with parents about the care being provided by staff at the camp.
- The inspector looked at a sample of the camp's documentation, including policies and procedures, and training certificates.
- The inspector checked the suitability of the adults working with children.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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