

Inspection of Ultimate Activity Camps At Westbrook Hay Prep School

Westbrook Hay Preparatory School, London Road, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD,
Hertfordshire HP1 2RF

Inspection date: 23 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

Children thoroughly enjoy the time they spend at this exciting holiday club. They separate from parents with ease and run to join their friends. The cheerful staff welcome all children during group registrations. They talk to children about the activities they will be doing during the day. Staff also use this opportunity to discuss the camp rules and how they will keep everyone safe.

Children demonstrate that they feel secure in this nurturing environment. They talk confidently to staff and visitors about their favourite activities. Younger children seek staff out for comfort when tired or upset. Staff support children, where necessary, with cuddles or participating in quiet activities together.

Children have access to variety of stimulating activities and resources. In the large sports hall, they enjoy developing skills such as tennis. Staff and children are especially excited this week as they get to investigate the new indoor inflatable obstacle course. Children also explore the numerous outdoor activities. They go for nature walks in the wooded areas and learn to manage risks when navigating the steep slopes. Younger children particularly enjoy the water channelling activities and making 'cakes' in the mud kitchen.

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

- Children behave well during their time at the holiday club. Staff are consistent in their approach to behaviour management. They use age-appropriate language to support children's understanding of acceptable behaviour.
- Children are kind and polite to one another. They demonstrate consistently good manners and support one another in small tasks. For example, children work as a team to pump water and work the water wall. Staff are excellent role models for children and are always respectful and helpful.
- Staff encourage children to try out new and challenging activities. They consistently praise children's efforts and achievements. For example, staff and children cheer one another on during a tennis session in order to support children's developing confidence.
- Children's safety is paramount. Effective daily risk assessments help to maintain a safe environment for children. Staff demonstrate sound knowledge of the robust health and safety procedures that are in place. They act swiftly and professionally to maintain the well-being of all children.
- Staff are very well qualified and experienced. They are knowledgeable about how to provide stimulating and exciting activities to a broad age range of children. For example, staff are skilful at adapting their approach when supporting older children in a mask-making activity.

- Robust hygiene routines are in place to keep children safe. Children know to wash their hands before meals and snacks and after each activity. Staff support children's understanding of how germs can spread. They remind them of the need to wash hands after coughing and sneezing.
- Directors implement robust recruitment and induction procedures. This helps to ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children. Managers monitor staff performance through regular supervision meetings. Gaps in knowledge and performance are then filled with face-to-face coaching and training. Staff also have access to online training programmes to keep their knowledge up to date.
- Parents speak highly of the well-established team of managers and staff. They praise the close bonds they build with children and the nurturing approach they have. Parents also acknowledge the variety of high-quality activities that are on offer. Children look forward to returning to the club each holiday.
- Staff are knowledgeable about the children they care for. Directors have established highly effective methods of communication between club staff, head office and parents. Managers and staff have access to essential information to support the specific needs of all children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff, managers, and directors all have a secure understanding of how to keep children safe. They know the signs and symptoms that could mean a child is at risk of abuse and the referral process to follow. Effective induction and training methods mean safeguarding information and procedures are securely embedded in staff knowledge.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY556276
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10174800
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	4 to 13
Total number of places	123
Number of children on roll	246
Name of registered person	The Ultimate Activity Company Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP901335
Telephone number	0330 111 7077
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Ultimate Activity Camps At Westbrook Hay Prep School registered in 2017. The camp operates from Westbrook Hey Prep School in Hertfordshire. The camp operates during school holidays from 8am to 6pm. There are 13 members of staff and of these, five hold a qualification at level six.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Antonia Campbell

Inspection activities

- 'This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the setting and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.'
- The inspector spoke to children, staff, directors, and managers at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector considered the views of parents by viewing feedback questionnaires.
- The inspector reviewed relevant documents, including evidence of staff suitability.
- The inspector observed interactions between staff and children throughout the inspection.

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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