

# Inspection of Super Camps At St Margaret's Preparatory School

St. Margarets Preparatory School, Gosfield Hall Park, Gosfield, Halstead, Essex CO9 1SE

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Inspection date:

6 April 2022

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

**This inspection**

**Met**

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Previous inspection

Not applicable

## **What is it like to attend this early years setting?**

### **This provision meets requirements**

Children settle quickly and happily. They are excited to engage in the varied range of high-quality games and activities. Children show genuine care and kindness to each other. They are confident to take turns, invite others to play and share their ideas. When children arrive, they enjoy the freedom to choose from a range of activities or sports as they wait for their friends and other children. Once all children are in session, staff call them together to discuss the day's events. Planning is flexible and at the end of each day, children share their ideas with staff for the following day, helping staff to incorporate their interests.

While sharing information about the various activities and sports of the day, staff take the opportunity to promote children's understanding of staying safe. Reminders are discussed and team points earned for those who join in. Competition for points is fierce but fun. There is open and welcomed conversation as children prepare to go into the school grounds to look for natural resources to add to the wizard potion they are making. Staff and children agree that no live creatures should be taken from their natural habitat and flowers and leaves that are already on the ground, along with cones and twigs, would make a good concoction. Children also discuss that they need to be able to always see a member of staff, staying in sight and sound, so everyone remains safe. During this time, children and staff recap on the camp rules and expectations. Behaviour is very good, and the children are well mannered and very polite.

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

- Staff engage very enthusiastically with children throughout the day. Their energy and positivity are infectious and the fun, can do atmosphere throughout the club is exceptional. As a result, children are keen and confident to try out their ideas. They use their imagination to create replica clay animals while others make statue 'thumbs up' or 'witches' noses'.
- Children show that they understand the setting's rules well, for example, they talk about how to use the clay and share fairly. Children focus extremely well on their chosen activity. They respond to familiar routines and develop very good independence. When using toys, children take responsibility to make sure they are put away again when they have finished playing, before selecting different ones.
- Parents speak very positively about how much their children enjoy attending. They find the staff team welcoming, easy to talk to and informative. They would highly recommend the camp to other families.
- Physical activities are at the centre of the camp's daily timetable. Children learn to move their bodies in different ways. This helps to promote their physical

strength and stamina. Staff understand about encouraging children's language development. They engage them in conversations which includes telling jokes. For instance, 'what do you call a giraffe without a long neck? No neck giraffe'. While children do not always yet get the full concept of making a joke, staff encourage them to share their ideas. Success is celebrated constantly, and the positive atmosphere and attitude of staff provides an excellent environment for the children to develop and thrive.

- Staff promote healthy lifestyles as they sit with children at snack and mealtimes. They talk with them about the healthy food options packed by their parents. Colour points are awarded for those children who bring in healthy snacks and lunch. This proves popular and ensures children have food that helps them to enjoy a well-balanced, nutritious diet. Independence is encouraged throughout the day, including supporting children to learn how to open packets and manage serving themselves. Staff understand the value of children's independence and take every opportunity to help them develop the life skills they need to support future development.
- The manager is supported well by area managers, who observe and provide positive reviews of staff performance. This helps the manager to build on staff strengths. Staff report that they are 'supported very well' in their work and find both the manager and area team easy to talk to. They state how they listen and provide pertinent advice, that helps them improve their interaction with children. Staff are deployed well and are vigilant when supervising children. Managers encourage staff to share their ideas and reflect on the provision they provide, to help promote continuous improvement.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers work with staff to ensure that all adults have a clear understanding of safeguarding issues. Staff undertake refresher training, online, to update themselves about the many aspects of abuse and neglect. Staff can talk confidently about the swift and correct action they would take across a wide range of child protection scenarios. They know how to respond correctly to concerns about a child's welfare or where they are worried about the behaviour of a colleague. Policies and procedures are in place and shared with staff and parents to ensure that all adults understand the importance of keeping children safe.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	2516024
<b>Local authority</b>	Essex
<b>Inspection number</b>	10194536
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Out-of-school day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	4 to 10
<b>Total number of places</b>	45
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	36
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Super Camps Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP906400
<b>Telephone number</b>	01235467300
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable

## Information about this early years setting

Super Camps At St Margaret's Preparatory School registered in 2019. The setting employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 6. The setting opens from Monday to Friday, during school holidays. Opening times are from 9am to 5pm and extended hours are available from 8am to 6pm.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Lynn Clements

## 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 manager, and this has been taken into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The management team and inspector completed a learning walk of the setting, inside and outside.
- Children spoke with the inspector about what they enjoy doing in the setting.
- Parents and staff spoke with the inspector at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed relevant documentation, including the suitability checks of all adults working in the setting.

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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