

Over the Wall

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Langstone Technology Park, Havant, Hampshire PO9 1SA

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this residential holiday scheme for disabled children

This holiday scheme caters for up to 56 children who live with serious medical challenges. The scheme will run two further camps over this inspection year.

The manager was registered with Ofsted in August 2022.

Inspection dates: 18 and 19 August 2022

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account **good**

How well children and young people are helped and protected good

The effectiveness of leaders and managers good

The residential holiday scheme for disabled children provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 30 July 2019

Overall judgement at last inspection: outstanding

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children enjoy and benefit from this holiday scheme. They learn new skills, gain confidence and make friends. They try many new activities. One child talked to the inspector about how he was able to climb up the climbing wall with the support of his team, something he has not been able to achieve before. To be able to participate and learn new skills is a huge accomplishment.

Thorough pre-admission assessments ensure that the staff have the knowledge to meet the children's needs. Care plans are formulated with input from parents and medical staff. They include information about the children's needs but exclude details of their diagnoses. This provides safe care while protecting their personal information.

The staff plan the activities in depth before the holiday to ensure that all children will benefit. Children are able to feed back during and after the camp. However, information is not provided in an accessible format. This prevents children from knowing the what to expect before the holiday.

Parents appreciate the holiday camps and the opportunities offered to their children. One parent said, 'They have been inclusive, welcoming and completely transparent throughout.' Another parent reported that, 'My child couldn't stop talking about the week when he came home.'

Children become more independent, encouraged by the staff. They increase their social skills, improve their ability to carry out personal care tasks and participate in a variety of activities, due to the supportive relationships and close supervision of the staff and volunteers.

Photos and videos taken during the scheme enable children to remember and reflect on the holiday and what they achieved. Involving children in using the cameras enables them to learn new skills and to feel involved.

How well children and young people are helped and protected: good

Effective planning before the start of camps minimises the risks for children. Medical staff familiarise themselves with the children's often complex health needs. The medical care and support, including for emotional well-being, is of a good standard and contributes to the children's emotional and physical safety. Every potential risk is considered, explored and when possible mitigated.

Children have a strong sense of safety and well-being. For some children, they are able to feel safe in an unknown environment for the first time. Staff manage situations and behaviours that arise well, with no impact on the rest of the children.

They have not needed to physically intervene, due to the effective assessment of children's needs before the holiday.

The supervision levels of children are appropriate and are a protective factor in ensuring that they do not go missing. In the event that children are not where they are supposed to be, protocols related to going missing are swiftly and effectively put in place.

Leaders, staff and volunteers are trained in safeguarding procedures. There has not been any need for any safeguarding referrals to be made. In general, the senior team manages and understands risk. However, the potential risks from other groups using the venue at the same time were not recorded to ensure that staff and volunteers have the necessary guidance. The registered manager met daily with the bursar of the school and the leader of the other group, but the shared information did not inform a risk assessment.

The children enjoy the scheme and bullying does not occur. The staff are receptive to any emerging issues and respond quickly to ensure the children's interactions remain positive.

The role of the well-being person in identifying children who may have additional social or emotional needs is understood and effective. She checks in on these children and ensures that the staff and volunteers are aware of their circumstances. She liaises closely with the registered manager to ensure that any issues are discussed as they arise.

The registered manager ensures that appropriate suitability checks are undertaken on all volunteers, but she does not monitor the records of checks. Therefore, she does not have the necessary oversight of recruitment.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The registered manager is a knowledgeable member of the team and has previous experience of coordinating the medical and emotional well-being of the children on camps. She managed the holiday scheme successfully, ensuring all the staff, volunteers and children had fun.

Complaints are dealt with sensitively and appropriately, with any learning acted upon. Learning and feedback are central to the approach of this organisation.

The organisation's aim for children to fully participate and engage in the holiday scheme has been achieved. The children were observed enjoying their time with the staff and other children. They participated in a variety of activities with enthusiasm and the support of their peers. Some volunteers had attended the scheme as participants, which reflects the positive experience and impact the scheme has had on them.

Staff and volunteers have inductions and briefings before the overnight stays. Training is regularly refreshed and staff have supervision throughout the year. This enables all staff and volunteers to keep up to date with the children's support needs and equips them to manage different situations.

The senior management team is present throughout the holiday and maintains strong and effective oversight of the day-to-day running of the scheme. They ensure that the children have fun while being kept safe.

What does the residential holiday scheme for disabled children need to do to improve?

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure risk assessments of the whole HSDC environment are carried out, to identify any potential sources of harm to the children, and that they are recorded in writing and regularly reviewed. ('Residential holiday schemes for disabled children: national minimum standards', 6.3)
- The registered person should ensure children have information about the scheme, in a format that is meaningful for them, so they can be clear about what to expect. This could be in Makaton, words, pictures, etc. ('Residential holiday schemes for disabled children: national minimum standards', 7.2)
- The registered person should ensure they have sight of all recruitment and health checks for every member of staff and volunteer working on the holiday. ('Residential holiday schemes for disabled children: national minimum standards', 9.1)

Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people, using the social care common inspection framework. This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service, how it meets the core functions of the service as set out in legislation, and to consider how well it complies with the Residential Holiday Schemes for Disabled Children (England) Regulations 2013 and the national minimum standards.

Residential holiday scheme for disabled children details

Unique reference number: 1027093

Registered provider: Over The Wall

Registered provider address: Langstone Technology Park, Havant, Hampshire
PO9 1SA

Responsible individual: Kevin Mathieson

Registered manager: Sally McCluskie

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Inspector

Suzy Lemmy, Social Care Inspector

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