

Inspection of Redwoods Active Camp

Sherfield School, Sherfield-on-Loddon, HOOK, Hampshire RG27 0HU

Inspection date:

14 February 2023

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

**This
inspection**

Not met (with actions)

Previous
inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision does not meet requirements

There are several breaches in requirement that have an impact on children's safety and well-being at the camp. However, children enjoy attending holiday camp and look forward to coming each day. Staff are kind and courteous in their interactions with children. New children are welcomed by the camp manager. However, staff do not take time to support those new to the setting to understand the routine of the day, or to share key safety instructions, such as how to evacuate the hall safely in the event of a fire. Nonetheless, children can access a wide range of activities during their time at the club and parents can see their children's schedule for the day at drop off time. Children have lots of opportunities to be physically active. They have use of the sports hall, woodland area and fields.

Children like spending time with their friends and have fun playing games and talking with staff. However, children do not demonstrate a clear understanding of the rules and boundaries. Younger children's sensory play is frequently disrupted, due to the way in which the childcare is organised. For example, older children throw and kick footballs in areas where children are playing musical instruments or building with construction resources. As well as leading to children becoming disengaged in their play this poses safety risks, as children run around areas of the hall littered with trip and slip hazards.

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

- Staff are not deployed effectively to meet the needs of the children attending. For example, children in the early years age range spend time on woodland walks and on the adventure playground supervised by staff that do not hold a relevant first-aid qualification.
- Leaders and managers do not have sufficient oversight of the camp. Staff fail to identify potential hazards to children's safety. This includes concerns regarding the security of the site. They do not prevent adults that have not been checked gaining access to the children attending.
- The way in which the childcare activities are organised within the sports hall does not ensure children's safety. Children are not clear about the expected levels of behaviour. For example, children play football and basket ball in the area where the television is set up. This goes unchallenged by staff and poses a risk to children in the immediate area.
- Children are keen to have a go at all activities and thoroughly enjoy the woodland walks. Staff skilfully talk to the children about the benefits of fresh air and exercise as they look for bugs and plants, which helps promote their personal development and understanding of the world.
- Staff are firmly focused on supporting children's health. They provide lots of

sporting activities, which children enjoy. They help children learn about healthy lifestyles and the importance of being physically active. Children understand the need for good hygiene practises. They wash their hands on re-entering the club from playing outside, after using the toilet and before eating. However children are not consistently supported to understand the risks of running and playing while eating. This poses serious risks of choking.

- Staff gather key information about children, prior to them starting at the club, including their likes and dislikes. This helps staff to support children and build positive relationships when they start at the club.
- Parents feel confident that the provider gathers a range of information prior to their child starting and have robust systems in place for the collection arrangements of children. However, the provider does not offer an inclusive service for all children or reassure parents that their child's individual needs will be met. For example, the provider does not take into account the needs of new children and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities in some of their policies, including those relating to toileting and providing intimate care.
- Leaders and managers do not have effective systems in place to ensure key information is shared with new staff during their induction. For example, not all staff are able to identify children with additional needs and/or medical considerations, such as allergies, before starting to care for children. This does not support support new staff to be able to meet children's individual needs.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Staff are not secure in their knowledge of the provider's safeguarding policy and procedures. Some camp staff are unable to identify the appropriate response to child protection concerns and do not understand the process for referring concerns about other adults in the setting. Risk assessments are not effective and the premises are not secure. Children are not given clear, consistent messages to help them learn to keep themselves safe, or understand what to do if the fire alarm sounds. Staff responsible for groups of children are not told about children's needs, such as allergies and medical conditions at the start of the day. These weaknesses compromise children's welfare.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
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ensure that children cannot leave the premises unsupervised and only those adults that have been vetted have access to the children attending the provision	28/02/2023
train all staff to understand the safeguarding policy and procedures, ensuring that all staff have up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding issues and know how to respond in a timely and appropriate way	28/02/2023
ensure that staff receive induction training to help them understand their roles and responsibilities, including information about emergency evacuation and health and safety issues	28/02/2023
ensure that the premises are safe, secure and suitable for those children accessing services, and that fire exits are free from obstruction and all staff and children understand what to do in the event of a fire	28/02/2023
review risk assessments to ensure that children are not exposed to risks and are helped to understand how to keep themselves and others safe	28/02/2023
ensure that the childcare is accessible and inclusive by taking all reasonable steps to make sure children with special educational needs and/or disabilities have access to the provision	28/02/2023
ensure that at least one person with a current paediatric first-aid certificate accompanies children on all outings.	28/02/2023

Setting details

Unique reference number	2660643
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10258049
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 11
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	150
Name of registered person	Oxford Active Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP904211
Telephone number	01865594325
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Redwoods Active Camp registered in 2021. It is one of several camps run by Oxford Active Ltd. The camp operates from Sherfield School, in the village of Hook in Hampshire. The camp is open each weekday from 8.15am to 6pm during school holidays. The provider employs three staff, of whom one holds qualified teacher status.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Leanne Merritt

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about the provider.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.

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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