

Inspection of Camp Beaumont - Berkhamsted

Berkhamsted Preparatory School, Doctors Commons Road, Berkhamsted HP4 3DW

Inspection date:

26 October 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

Managers do not consistently ensure that the required qualification requirements are met. This means that the children are not always cared for by appropriately qualified staff. Furthermore, during some parts of the day, some of the children's behaviour deteriorates. For example, on one occasion, a child was observed using their lunch bag to strike another child. On a further occasion, a child used the soft-play equipment to try to knock a child over. This potentially compromises the well-being of other children. Additionally, as noise levels increase, some of the younger children become distressed.

Nevertheless, children are warmly greeted by the staff on their arrival. They are shown where to place their personal belongings and eagerly join their friends, who are busy completing colouring and dot-to-dot activities. Children are then provided with a range of activities during the day. They have lots of fun playing games, such as 'Duck, duck, goose', which supports the children effectively to follow instructions and learn the rules of the game. Staff support the children to continue to develop their creative and imaginative skills. Children colour and use collage materials to decorate Halloween masks and enthusiastically build tall constructions using large foam blocks.

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

- Managers have not ensured that all requirements of registration are met. Strategies to manage children's behaviour are not always effective. Staff are not suitably qualified. Permission is sought from parents when their child requires medication, along with details of the medicine and dosage to be given. When parents collect their children they are advised what, when and how much medication has been given so that they are fully aware. However, the manager does not ensure that the required written record following the administration of medication is completed.
- Managers implement induction procedures where staff learn about their role and responsibilities, receive child protection training and are taught how to implement the club's activities. Additionally, staff attend camp 'set-up days'. This supports staff to become familiar with the school site and is used to further refresh and enhance staff's knowledge and skills.
- A range of information is gathered from parents before their children attend the club. For example, detailed information is obtained regarding children with known food allergies and children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. The designated special educational needs coordinator then ensures that this information is used to tailor care to each child's individual needs. This enables children to join in and play alongside their friends.

- Children thoroughly enjoy being physically active in the fresh air. They cheer on their friends during running and hopping races, celebrating everyone's achievement by clapping at the end of the activity. Staff plan activities, such as the 'Mini Olympics' which supports children's developing physical skills effectively. Children are shown how to balance on the stilts, to jump over the hurdles and to kick the ball into the goal.
- Staff engage in conversations with the children and take an interest in what they are doing. They read stories to the children. Staff use animated voices, which helps to maintain the children's attention. Children listen well, show an interest in the illustrations, answer questions and eagerly recite familiar phrases from the story.
- Staff have kind relationships with the children, which supports children's emotional security. When asked, children state that they enjoy their time at the club. They proudly show their artwork to visitors and confidently talk about what they have made.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers and staff have completed child protection training. They are able to recognise potential signs of abuse and know how to report concerns about a child's welfare. This includes reporting any concerns they have about adults who work with the children. Managers follows secure recruitment procedures to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Daily checks are made to ensure the premises are safe. The premises are secure. Staff closely monitor the entrance door during busy arrival and collection times, and procedures are in place to ensure children are collected by known adults. Effective risk assessment procedures are in place to support activities, such as swimming.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the provider must:

	Due date
ensure required qualification requirements are consistently met	01/12/2023
review the organisation of routines to support the positive behaviour of children, this includes ensuring noise levels remain consistent throughout the day	01/12/2023

ensure a record is maintained of all medication administered to children.	01/12/2023
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Setting details

Unique reference number	2647994
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10301035
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 11
Total number of places	80
Number of children on roll	200
Name of registered person	CB (Oldco) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900819
Telephone number	01603851000
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Camp Beaumont - Berkhamstead registered in July 2021 and operates from Berkhamsted Preparatory School in Berkhamsted. The club operates from 8am to 6pm during the school holidays only. The club employs nine members of staff. The manager is a qualified teacher.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Ann Austen

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.
- The inspector took a tour of the camp with the manager and talked about how the camp is organised, including the play opportunities provided for the children.
- The inspector observed staff interactions with the children during indoor and outdoor activities.
- The area managers, manager, staff and children engaged in discussions with the inspector at appropriate times during the inspection.
- A sample of documents were viewed by the inspector, including evidence of staff suitability and training.
- The inspector spoke to several parents 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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