

Inspection of Ultimate Activity Camps At Crosfields School

Crosfields School, Shinfield Road, Shinfield, Reading, Berkshire RG2 9BL

Inspection date:

30 October 2024

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

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Met

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children enjoy their time at the camp. They are kept well occupied through the planned activities and a good range of resources. Children make their own choices from the free-play resources, including construction, role play and drawing materials. They show excitement and interest in taking part in the planned activities, such as the bouncy castle and swimming.

Staff are attentive to children. They spend time interacting with children and support them well. Staff take steps to get to know children. For instance, they use information provided by parents and chat to children to find out about their interests. Staff are quick to notice and provide support to any children who show signs of needing reassurance. They encourage children to talk to them and offer support, along with encouragement, to play and join in with activities. This supports children's emotional well-being and confidence securely.

Staff help children to gain a good awareness of the behaviour expectations and how to stay safe. They provide regular reminders to children and encourage them to recall the rules, boundaries, and expectations. Children move safely around the premises to visit different areas for activities and mealtimes. For example, staff remind children to stay together in a line while walking to different areas. Overall, staff's organisation of the camp is effective.

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

- Parents and children are warmly welcomed on arrival by staff. They receive information about the camp, including the daily activities which are displayed. Parents feedback about the camp is positive. They say there are a good range of activities and that their children enjoy attending.
- Staff engage well with children, which helps them to feel at ease. Staff help children get to know each other. For example, staff and children play group games, where they find out each others names and favourite animals and colours. Overall, staff organise resources and activities securely to help children engage in their play. Occasionally, they do not fully consider ways to organise the room, such as to reduce noise levels when small-group activities take place.
- Staff explain to children about the rules for activities that keep them and other's safe. They regularly check children's understanding of these. The activities are closely supervised and managed carefully to promote children's safety. For instance, staff limit the numbers of children using equipment, such as the bouncy castle. While children wait for a turn on the equipment, they are engaged in alternative activities. Staff ensure that children have fair turns when using popular equipment.

- The provider promotes an inclusive approach. They ask parents to provide information about their children's needs. Staff use appropriate strategies to support children, including visual communication cards. They plan activities that help children to develop their understanding about similarities and differences. This includes celebrating world events along with religious and cultural festivals. Staff encourage children to discuss and share their own experiences of these.
- Staff complement the development of children's skills. For example, they encourage children to do things for themselves, which promotes their self-care and independence. This includes putting away their belongings and finding and putting on their coats. Staff offer children support when needed. Children gain a sense of responsibility when staff ask them to help to tidy up the resources they have played with. Children cooperate with routines easily. Occasionally, staff take time to organise changes to the routine, such as following lunchtime. This results in some children becoming restless while waiting.
- Staff promote children's awareness of healthy lifestyles. They talk about healthy eating with children and remind them to have regular drinks. Staff ask children to take their water bottles to the different activities. This ensures children always have access to water, particularly after being physically active. Along with being active, staff ensure children have times to relax and play. This supports children's good health and well-being.
- The provider offers staff support before and during the camp. They provide training for staff, including in specific activities that require specialist training. All staff complete induction training, which includes health and safety and safeguarding training. Staff say that they feel well supported while working at the camp.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2534529
Local authority	Wokingham
Inspection number	10364729
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 14
Total number of places	104
Number of children on roll	84
Name of registered person	The Ultimate Activity Company Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP901335
Telephone number	0330 111 7077
Date of previous inspection	27 October 2021

Information about this early years setting

Ultimate Activity Camps at Crosfields School registered in 2019. The camp uses premises at Crosfields School, Shinfield, Reading to provide holiday care to children. It is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm during the summer, Easter and October school holidays. The provider employs seven members of staff to work with children. Of these, two staff hold early years qualifications at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sheena Bankier

Inspection activities

- The operations manager discussed how the camp is organised and what is considered when planning and providing activities to children.
- The inspector observed children's daily routines, play and activities during the inspection.
- The inspector and operations manager completed a joint observation of an activity and evaluated the effectiveness of this together.
- Children talked to the inspector about the activities they enjoyed at the camp.
- The inspector gained some feedback from a small number of parents available on the day of the inspection.
- A leadership and management meeting was held during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- A sample of documentation was viewed during the inspection, including evidence of staff's suitability to work with children.

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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