

Fit For Sport Kids Camp at Stoke Mandeville Stadium

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number EY347895
Inspection date 31/10/2008
Inspector Jane Plested

Setting address The Lodge, Stoke Mandeville Sports Stadium, Harvey Road, AYLESBURY, Buckinghamshire, HP21 9PP
Telephone number 01296 484848
Email stoke.mandeville@leisureconnections.co.uk
Type of setting Childcare on non-domestic premises

Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

Description of the setting

Fit For Sport Kids Camp was registered in 2007. It is owned by Fit for Sport Limited and operates from the Stoke Mandeville Sports Stadium and Lodge in partnership with Leisure Connect. The play scheme is registered to care for a maximum of 40 children at any one time. The play scheme is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. It is open weekdays during every school holiday from 09.30 to 16.30; children can attend from 08.30 to 17.30 at an additional cost. There are currently 30 children that attend the setting, of whom 15 are in the early years age group. Children attend from the local and wider environment. There are four staff employed to work with children.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The programme of activities is at times unsuitable for children in the early years age group. The staff's lack of understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework results in a poorly planned environment. Failure to meet several of the requirements for registration puts children's welfare at risk and there are no systems to support the assessment of their learning and development. As a result, staff fail to complement individual children's learning across the framework and at times some younger children are not fully included and become disengaged. The nominated representative of the management demonstrates awareness of areas where there are significant weaknesses and is developing procedures that show a capacity for improvement. The strengths of the setting are the development of physical fitness and skills, a relaxed environment and respectful and friendly relationships between children.

Overall, the early years provision requires significant improvement. The registered person is given a Notice to Improve that sets out actions to be carried out.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To comply with the requirements of the EYFS the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

- ensure that children are supervised by a suitable person at all times and that records demonstrate that adults looking after children are vetted and suitable (Suitable people) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 05/12/2008
- make sure that management systems ensure that all staff and managers know the policies and procedures so that, for example, they know emergency evacuation procedures (Suitable premises, environment and equipment) 05/12/2008
- ensure that the company's stated safety checking/risk assessment procedures are completed daily (Suitable 05/12/2008

- premises, environment and equipment) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that the programme of activities is suitable to challenge all children and complements their progress toward the early learning goals (Learning and Development) 05/12/2008
- review organisation of the setting and utilise self-evaluation procedures to ensure the setting works effectively and meets the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and that each child receives an experience tailored to meet their individual needs (Organisation) 05/12/2008
- develop systems to assess children's starting points and progress in learning, which includes information from staff, parents, carers and other professionals (Assessment arrangements) 05/12/2008
- ensure that an appropriately qualified named manager is on site at all times (Suitable people) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 05/12/2008

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Managers are ineffective in organising the staff to care for and safeguard children. There was not a suitably qualified 'person in charge' on site and at times, children are left in the sole charge of a student. This is a breach of the requirements for registration. All staff complete core training; they all have first aid certificates and child protection training, which will act to support their work with children. The required records relating to children's care are in place but those relating to staff do not clearly demonstrate that staff are vetted, which is a breach of the requirements for registration.

Staff have a general understanding of the setting's policies and procedures but those arriving from other settings to act as bank cover lack familiarity with key procedures, such as those for evacuation. This diminishes their ability to keep children safe. Staff have not implemented the setting's risk assessment procedures, which results in hazards to children within the premises. However, staff are vigilant in teaching children to be safe when moving around the sports centre. There are also appropriate safety systems in place to support activities such as swimming.

The programme of activities is strongly linked to sports and fitness but it does not give sufficient attention to helping children make progress within the EYFS. The learning environment does not ensure all children are engaged and included in purposeful play. The setting's work with parents is generally sound and, as a result, they are pleased with the setting. However, there are no systems for working in partnership with other carers and professionals.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are encouraged to be respectful of their peers and the equipment. The environment is not well planned to ensure they feel valued, for example, there is nowhere for children to hang their coats and belongings. Children behave well and have good relationships with staff. Children do not have access to a range of planned and self-chosen activities; as a result, they have very few opportunities for choice in their play. At mealtimes children develop good eating habits but again the poor organisation of the setting means that they have to sit on a gym mat to eat their lunch. Children drink at regular intervals so they remain refreshed and are encouraged to develop appropriate personal hygiene habits by staff.

Children have little opportunity for meaningful activity in the period before the programme of planned activities commences. Planning for children within the early years age group does not give sufficient attention to helping them make progress within the EYFS, as it primarily focuses on their physical development. Overall, staff do not know children's starting points and there are no evaluation and assessment systems. Consequently, there is no method of ascertaining children's overall progress. At times children have fun playing games such as 'tag', and look forward to swimming activities, which helps the development of larger muscles and coordinated movement. At times poor organisation results in the cancellation of activities such as swimming at short notice, which causes disappointment to children. Plans do not address the differing needs of younger children or those who do not wish to participate in planned games, for example, children who do not wish to take part in badminton or aerobic exercise. Overall, the lack of planning results in periods of boredom and disengagement for younger children, who find the activities are often not appropriately differentiated. Staff plan for and teach children to be safe when moving around the sports centre and crossing the car park but are not vigilant in checking for hazards and consequently miss some potential risks to children's safety. Children take part in practising emergency drills but not all staff are familiar with these procedures, which put children's welfare at risk. Parents spoken with say their children enjoy coming to the setting. They have access to the setting's policies and procedures, and notices that provide general day-to-day information, such as the children's activities, the names of the staff on site and nominated first aiders, but these are not always up-to-date.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

Overall effectiveness

How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	4
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	4
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	4

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	4
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	4
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	3
How well are children safeguarded?	4

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	4
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	4
How well are children helped to stay safe?	4
How well are children helped to be healthy?	3
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	4
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	4
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	3

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are: Not Met (with actions)

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Not Met (with actions)

The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report 05/12/2008

To comply with the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report 05/12/2008

Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

Detail of the complaint/s

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.