

Inspection of Churchill Summer Camps

Stamford Junior School, Kettering Road, STAMFORD, Lincolnshire PE9 2LR

Inspection date:

11 July 2025

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

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

The camp has a nurturing and friendly atmosphere. As children arrive, they are greeted by kind and nurturing staff who support them to settle in. All children are allocated a key member of staff to ensure their emotional needs are met and to help them feel secure. Soon after arrival, children have the opportunity to get to know their allocated staff member and new friends. They are supported by staff to understand the club's values. This includes children developing their awareness of key messages, such as how to respect others and engage in craft activities to help them express their likes and dislikes. Staff use the information they have gathered about children to meet their needs and support them to access activities. As a result, children are extremely settled and confident in the camp. They make friends quickly and are kind to each other.

Throughout the day, children enthusiastically engage in an ambitious timetable that offers them an extensive range of activities. Children express how excited they are for the day ahead. They tell staff that they have been practising for the talent show and cannot wait to take part. Staff support all children to participate. They keep the children motivated and engaged, finding different roles for children who do not wish to perform. After the talent show, all of the children are praised for their efforts through an awards show. Children show immense pride as they go up to collect their certificates, which supports their self-esteem.

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

- The staff team works hard to ensure children and families feel supported and have a sense of belonging at the camp. A thorough period of information gathering takes place before children attend. Staff use this information to help children from the moment they arrive by setting up rooms and areas with familiar resources and activities. As a result, children enjoy attending and taking part in the wide variety of activities on offer.
- The club's timetable of activities helps children find a balance between being active and finding time for more restful activities. For example, after planned activities that require physical exercise, children have time to pursue their interests and recharge before moving on to the next activity. Staff adapt the timetable accordingly, taking into account children's needs and factors such as the weather. This supports children to maintain their personal well-being.
- Staff support children to engage in team activities, such as den building. They are challenged to create a shelter that protects them from any potential imaginary dangers they may encounter. Staff use open-ended questions to promote children's thinking skills and to support them in identifying areas that may need further problem-solving. Children listen well to staff and each other

and are keen to help one another. This promotes teamwork and supports children's thinking skills.

- During their time at the camp, children are supported to try new activities and develop new skills. Carefully selected staff, with specialisms in particular areas of coaching, help children to achieve and grow in new areas. For example, children have experiences to develop skills to swim, drive quad bikes and engage in fencing competitions. This gives children a rich set of opportunities and supports them to acquire new skills and confidence.
- Leaders and staff build positive relationships with parents. The arrival and collection times are organised in a way that promotes ongoing discussions with parents, with time to hand over any new and relevant information about children's days. Parents comment that the club's efficient and effective communication makes them feel at ease. They also comment on how their children are eager to return to the camp during each holiday.
- The leaders are highly reflective and strive for continued improvement. They regularly evaluate what is working well and what they need to do better. Recently, the evaluation has led to further staff training in early years to support younger children who attend. The continued improvements support the camp's continued progression and ensure that all children are supported exceptionally well.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are well supported. Staff are aware of children's individual needs and are always on hand to provide support, such as making necessary adaptations or accommodations. Staff are highly proactive in the support they provide, which supports inclusion. Parents value the adaptations made and appreciate the consideration and support their children receive.
- Leaders support their staff team exceptionally well with a great emphasis on well-being. Staff receive a thorough, comprehensive training package before they begin at the club, followed by regular and ongoing support and supervision. Staff express how supported they feel by leaders and that they look forward to coming back to work at the club to help the children.

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	EY391890
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	10388789
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory 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	100
Number of children on roll	250
Name of registered person	Churchill Summer Camps Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP523627
Telephone number	01780 753461
Date of previous inspection	30 July 2019

Information about this early years setting

Churchill Summer Camps re-registered in 2009 and is situated in Stamford, Lincolnshire. The camp employs 21 members of childcare staff. Of these, seven hold qualified teacher status, including the provider. The manager holds a certificate of education. The camp operates during all school holidays. It opens between the core hours of 9.30am to 4.30pm but offers optional earlier and later hours from 8am until 6pm according to parental need.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Samantha Butterwick

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children as they took part in activities.
- Parents shared their views of the club with the inspector.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The provider showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.

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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