

Inspection of Camp 4 Champs @ Thorpe Hall

Thorpe Hall School, Wakering Road, SOUTHEND-ON-SEA SS1 3RD

Inspection date:

29 May 2025

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

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children and parents are warmly welcomed as they are greeted by attentive and caring staff as they arrive. Children appear happy and excited to attend the holiday club. They are welcomed into a large hall, well organised with a variety of activities readily available. Children are eager to know what activities are planned. They enthusiastically talk about the 'enrichment' activity of the day, and how much fun they had on a bouncy castle. They tell visitors to the setting that they cannot wait to take part in the days trampoline lesson. Children store their personal belongings and sit chatting to the staff and their friends while they wait for everyone to arrive. Staff take time getting to know the children and provide activities that will capture their interest. As a result, all children are settled, confident and fully integrated at the club. Children have formed close and trusting bonds with the staff who speak respectfully to them. They are good role models and have high expectations for the children who play well together and demonstrate good manners.

Children also enjoy opportunities to exercise and play outdoors in the fresh air. They have the space and freedom to run in the secure school grounds. They proficiently use the climbing apparatus and participate in organised races and games. Organised sporting activities in the school sports hall, such as dodge ball are popular. Young children still in the early years are well supported. While all staff are caring and attentive a system is in place for the younger children, where the manager ensures they are settled, happy and fully engaged.

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

- There is a strong focus to support all children's emotional well-being. Caring staff ensure children are happy and settled. The youngest early years children demonstrate they feel safe and secure. They are confident and interested in the activities provided. They engage visitors to the club in conversation and are keen to discuss what they enjoy most.
- Positive working relationships with the parents have been established. Enrolment and registration is completed via the camps website. However, daily discussions take place when children are delivered in the morning and feedback is provided to parents when they collect their children.
- Parents are very complimentary about their children's attendance at the club. Many say their children are keen and happy to attend. Parents comment the staff are friendly, welcoming and familiar to the children. They say they feel reassured their children are safe, entertained and have fun.
- Young children show enthusiasm as they decorate masks. They sit and chat to their friends as they concentrate colouring patterns. They make good attempts to attach elastic, and are proud with their finished creation. Children wear their

mask throughout the morning and talk about the 'superhero' they have become. They enjoy the praise and recognition they receive for their efforts.

- Children enjoy participating in organised cooking activities daily. They have immense fun making 'freak shakes'. They patiently wait as they share a variety of ingredients to make their drinks which they enjoy when completed.
- Children's bring their own packed lunches and snacks. Good procedures are in place to ensure individual dietary needs are managed well to protect their welfare. However, a 'tuck shop' is also available to them. There is great excitement as children use money and make choices for themselves, selecting from a variety of treats available. Children are fully aware of the need to wash hands before eating and when returning from activities outdoors.
- Staff are good role models and they are calm and interact appropriately with the children. Rules and expectations of the club are understood and consistently applied. Children watch a fun, welcome video at the start of each day that explains the club rules, the importance of friendships and being kind and. It also covers practical information such as how to respond in the event of a fire drill.
- The management team are very hands on. Support is offered to the team of staff who are fully aware of their role and responsibilities. Staff and speak positively and say they feel valued and supported in their role. They are encouraged and have some opportunities to continue with their own professional development, as they have access to an online training programme.

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	2730292
Local authority	Southend-on-Sea
Inspection number	10398144
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	119
Number of children on roll	576
Name of registered person	Camp 4 Champs Limited
Registered person unique reference number	2524475
Telephone number	01702582340
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Camp 4 Champs @ Thorpe Hall registered in 2023. The club is open Monday to Friday, from 8am until 6pm, during all school holidays. The club employs 20 members of staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and seven members hold qualified teacher status.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Lynn Hartigan

Inspection activities

- The area manager showed the inspector around the club and explained how the play environment is organised.
- The inspector had several discussions with area manager and the camp manager to explore leadership and management issues.
- The inspector spoke to staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of the provider's documentation, including policies and procedures and training certificates.
- Parents told the inspector what they thought about the provision and staff, and their views were considered.
- The children told the inspector about what they like to do when they are at the club.

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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