

Inspection of Art Camp @Shire Oak

Shire Oak Primary School, Wood Lane, Headingley, Leeds LS6 2DT

Inspection date:

20 February 2025

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

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Not Met (with actions)

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children happily arrive to the setting. They interact with the friendly staff and know the daily routines, helping them feel secure. Staff have clear expectations and boundaries for children, such as to respect each other, have fun and be kind to others. Staff aim to provide a safe space for children and, through a range of art and craft activities, help them develop a sense of belonging and enjoy their time at the setting.

Children are eager to seek out their friends and share their news. There is a lot of excitement in the air as the children settle down to their day. A pre-planned range of activities are shared on the setting's website, so children arrive looking forward to some of the experiences they will have. For example, children enjoy learning about and walking some alpacas that are visiting the setting.

Children have opportunities to use the school playground, where they can run, climb, balance and enjoy a game of football. Other children follow the enthusiastic staff as they act out songs with actions. Staff use their theatrical skills to engage children and bring joy to their play. At these times, children who are involved have big smiles on their faces.

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

- Since the last inspection, the provider has made the changes necessary to ensure the requirements of registration are met. This includes receiving support from the local authority. This means, for example, the safety of children has improved, some staff have completed first aid and safeguarding training and overall policies and procedures more effectively inform staff practice. Where detail is still missing from some policy information, there is no impact on children. This is because staff are following correct procedures, for example, with regard to the safe storage of mobile phones.
- A key-person system has been implemented for the youngest children attending the setting, which means their individual needs are now met and they receive consistent support. However, at times staff who provide care for the older children do not recognise quickly enough when they are not joining in with the session. For example, when noise levels rise, some quieter, less confident children sit to the side. Staff have not considered the organisation of sessions in the hall to enable children to have their own space or choice of alternative activities when needed.
- The provider has completed safer recruitment training and follows appropriate staff recruitment procedures to help assess staff suitability. The provider monitors staff practice through one-to-one meetings and appraisals. Staff have

opportunities to update their skills and knowledge through completing training courses with an online training provider.

- Older children develop their creativity and concentration when in small groups they make body parts for an imaginary animal. They use a wide range of media and materials and share their thoughts and ideas with their peers. Children show excitement as they begin to piece the animal together. Overall, children are supported throughout the activity by staff who engage and enthuse them.
- Younger children have the opportunity to demonstrate their artistic flair as they make finger paint pictures of hot air balloons and make musical instrument shakers. They use their shakers enthusiastically as they sing along to songs and rhymes. However, during the day younger children are not able to make independent choices about their play. They are not provided with alternative resources or opportunities to those planned by staff.
- Children follow appropriate personal hygiene routines, for example washing their hands after touching the alpacas and before they have their lunch. Parents provide packed lunches and snacks for their children and staff refill children's water bottles when needed. Children take part in wake up, shake up sessions and yoga, which supports their health and well-being.
- Parents can access relevant information about the setting on the website. The updated booking form gathers detailed information about children and has links to pertinent information, including the setting's policies. To gather additional information, staff talk to parents about their children when they are signed into the setting on a morning. Changes to the procedures for children's arrival and departure have improved their safety and support a more accurate recording system.

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	2806590
Local authority	Leeds
Inspection number	10378307
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 10
Total number of places	100
Number of children on roll	216
Name of registered person	Art Camp Uk Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2538949
Telephone number	07944558232
Date of previous inspection	31 October 2024

Information about this early years setting

Art Camp @Shire Oak registered in 2024. It is operated by a limited company and runs from Shire Oak Primary School in Headingley, Leeds. There are 17 staff, including the provider, who is also the manager. Two staff hold qualified teacher status. The setting operates during the school holidays, Monday to Friday, from 8.30am to 5pm and is also open to reception-age children from the local and wider areas.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lindsay Dobson

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- Children spoke to the inspector about what they enjoy doing while at the setting.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and the children.
- The inspector spoke with the provider about the leadership and management of the setting.
- 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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