

Atlas Camps Stroud

St Matthews School, Church Road, Stroud GL5 4JE



Inspection date	23 October 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
		Not applicable	
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Not Applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is outstanding

- The director monitors staff extremely well. He provides robust induction and continuing professional development opportunities, which support staff to develop their skills further and help them to plan effectively for children's interests and needs. Children are very motivated and eager to take part in activities.
- The director's enthusiasm and passion for providing high-quality camps are also reflected by the staff. They constantly seek ways to improve the experiences of the children and their families. They make excellent use of feedback from parents, children and other staff to make changes. For example, the camp manager uses 'choosing cards' for the children to add their ideas to the play activities. Children develop high self-esteem and confidence.
- Staff praise children's efforts and celebrate children's achievements. They share these effectively with parents, especially when children learn new skills. Staff use the information extremely well to plan highly challenging activities. Children show great levels of concentration and engagement with activities.
- Staff are excellent role models. They help children to manage feelings, work cooperatively with others and keep themselves safe. Children's behaviour is exceptional.
- Staff know children exceptionally well and ensure they know children's names to welcome them warmly to the camp. Children settle rapidly and confidently explore the activities and resources.
- Staff set up different play spaces superbly to enhance the choice of experiences for the children, including climbing equipment, craft activities, group games and quiet times. Children are highly confident in making decisions about their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- build on children's already excellent independence to encourage their involvement in all aspects of play activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of play activities indoors and outdoors, and spoke with the children and staff at appropriate times.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection and through written testimonials.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a play activity with the director.
- The inspector held a leadership and management meeting with the director and talked to the camp manager at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at samples of paperwork, including staff qualifications, policies and procedures, and children's records.

Inspector

Anita McKelvey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The director reviews the recruitment of staff and updates policies to reflect new legislation, such as the recent changes for handling personal data. He makes sure staff have relevant qualifications to lead the camps and has introduced a training scheme for junior staff to gain skills and knowledge. This helps to ensure they can actively promote children's welfare and are very responsive to children's needs. Staff are highly vigilant about children's well-being and safety. For instance, they ask children to recall the safety rules, such as letting staff know when they need the bathroom so they can monitor where they are. Staff remind children to drink plenty of water when they have taken part in physical activities. Safeguarding is effective. All staff receive training so they know what to do and can act quickly if they feel that a child is at risk. Staff have an excellent understanding of how to keep children safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children arrive eager and ready to play. Staff greet them enthusiastically and use their expert knowledge and skills superbly to engage and motivate children to join in activities. For example, they ask questions and offer support as children cut out circles of bubble wrap to make 'tortoise shells' for their models. Children experiment with coloured paints as they mix red and blue to give their tortoise a purple shell. Children make decisions about how they want to play and what they want to play with. They independently choose from the large selection of toys and resources that is stored in readily accessible storage crates. For example, children select the building blocks and work together to create a boat. Children have great fun outdoors and readily include others in their play. For example, they ask the staff to count while they go and hide. Older children play brilliantly with younger children as they help them to use the rope to climb to the top of the wooden climbing frame. They are extremely patient when the children take time to climb up and offer help if they get stuck.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children have brilliant self-help skills, such as putting on aprons and using scissors. However, staff do not consistently encourage children to build on their independence during planned activities. Children show increasing confidence in social situations and develop very good friendships with others. For example, older children work well with younger children as they help them to write down their ideas for different games they want to play and to line up ready to practise the fire drill. Children are extremely helpful and supportive of each other, working together to learn new skills. For example, older children demonstrate how to create new patterns with small elastic bands to create rings, bracelets and necklaces.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY538673
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	10057025
Type of provision	Out-of-school day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	4 - 11
Total number of places	38
Number of children on roll	87
Name of registered person	Atlas All-Stars Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901093
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07837788074

Atlas Camps Stroud registered in 2016. The provision operates from St Mathews Primary School, Stroud. The provision operates from 9am until 4pm on Monday to Friday, with extended sessions from 8am until 4pm, 9am until 5pm and 8am until 5pm. It is open during school holidays only, with the exception of Christmas. There are four staff who work with the children, one of whom holds qualified teacher status, two hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 6 and one holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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