



SEND Policy

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS & DISABILITIES POLICY

Introduction

Camp Beaumont is an inclusive provider and wants to give every child the best experience possible. Whilst Camp Beaumont is not a statutory provision, the company endeavours to make reasonable adjustments to the camp where necessary and practical. However, there may be occasions when this would be considered unreasonable due to the additional cost or time restraints in a camp setting.

SEND Procedure

If a child has additional needs and/or requirements, it is essential that the parent/carer discuss these with Camp Beaumont as soon as possible before continuing the booking process. We need to make a fair assessment of service provision and identify appropriate resources in relation to access, support, successful participation and safety, and we require the parent to provide us with as much information as possible prior to confirming a booking. We will endeavour to make reasonable adjustments to facilitate the successful attendance of the child at our camps. Please see Appendix A.

Our Camp Manager is the person responsible for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) at each camp location. The Inclusion Manager has oversight across all camp sites and reviews requests for placement. We make our facilities and settings as accessible as we possibly can, with consideration to the different activities that we offer, in an attempt to make all activities available to every child within their specific age groups. Each child identified with Special Educational needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) will have their needs met where practically possible and appropriate. Children's access and progress is monitored and reviewed on a daily basis.

Where a parent/carer declares Special Needs and/or requirements less than 7 days before the camp begins, we reserve the right to put a hold on the child's place until we are able to establish complete information and undertake necessary risk assessments in order to make reasonable adjustments with the Inclusion Manager, the relevant Area Team and /or Camp Manager. This may delay any offer to accommodate the child's booking.

Where a parent/carer wishes for their child to attend one of our longer camps, but are unsure how they will settle or manage in the new environment, we recommend booking a paid trial day first and reserve the right to review further bookings based on this. By informing us if your child has any additional needs relating to disability at the time of booking, we can carry out an assessment with the support of the Inclusion Manager and/or Area Team. Once we are satisfied, and we have discussed and agreed with you that we can fully support their individual safely and needs, we will then confirm your booking. This helps us give the best support to everyone at Camp Beaumont.

Please note: Camp Beaumont can only take responsibility for arrangements that have been discussed and agreed with us in advance.

Disability

Camp Beaumont works together with parents/ carers to meet the needs of children with disabilities,

At Camp Beaumont, the main areas we consider regarding disability are: independent pastoral and personal care, access to all necessary domestic facilities; access to sufficient activities (where relevant); and physical ability to participate safely and enjoyably in as much as possible of the activity programme, and if applicable, suitability of transport arrangements.

We are unable to provide personal carers, and therefore we require all children to be toilet trained and clean and dry. We acknowledge that for younger children, accidents may happen, and staff will ensure that your child has access to changing facilities.

Equal Opportunities

Camp Beaumont welcomes all children with Special Educational Needs (SEN), or behavioural needs to attend and fully participate in our camps. Our continued commitment to liaising and communicating with families, local authorities, schools and other relevant outside agencies ensures all our procedures align with the current guidance.¹

If we feel that a child within our care does require further support with their support needs and their parent or carer has not previously identified this to us, we will ensure that this is discussed with their parent or carer at the earliest possible opportunity. Any matter of this nature will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

Our Equal Opportunities statement exists to make sure that no one feels unwelcome. If with appropriate prompting, guidance is not followed by a child, we would request a discussion with the child's parents/carers to highlight the problem. If the behaviour continued, the child could be asked to leave the camp. For more information on behaviour, please see our Guest Code of Conduct and Anti-bullying policy.

Making an adjustment means changing the way we do things to remove barriers and make sure a child with disabilities can be involved and included.

We recognise that some children may not need any adjustments, some may ask for a few changes, and others may face more barriers, and would need more than one adjustment. Our overall aim is, as much as possible, to remove or reduce any disadvantages faced by a child with a disabilities.

There may be times where we can't reasonably make adjustments for some children, for example, if an extra member of staff is needed, but every effort would be made if it's reasonable to do so.

At Camp Beaumont, we want to manage expectations and need to make parents/carers aware that we may not be able to offer the same level of support as a child's school.

As part of our commitment to safety, we need to complete a risk assessment and reasonable adjustments plan before the start of the camp. By completing this with a child and their family, we can identify the barriers they face and the adjustments we can reasonably make to remove these barriers.

This will help us to make changes to ensure the camp is accessible. It's a personalised, practical plan which will help identify and record adjustments for disabled children with disabilities.

For more information about what adjustments we can make and how we decide, please see Appendix B.

Behaviour

Our Guest Code of Conduct & Anti-bullying Policy sets out what should happen if the good atmosphere of the camp is compromised by disruptive or inappropriate behaviour. Depending on the extent of the infringement and the frequency, we may have to reconsider the inclusion of the child in the camp.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/6/part/3/enacted>

Appendix A | Reasonable Adjustments

What is reasonable depends on the effectiveness of the adjustment, whether it can actually be done, and the cost and resources available at that time. Reasonable adjustments is a legal term that recognises that each camp will have different practical resources to meet the needs of an individual young person.

For example, if a young person would benefit from the support of a regular 1:1 assistant/carer to fully participate in the camp, and their parent/carer can offer this level of support or employ their own carer to deliver this, it is reasonable that the camp supports this adjustment. The assistant/carer will need to provide a current DBS to the Camp Manager when arriving on site.

However, if the parent/carer cannot provide this support, and so a professional carer is required as the 1:1, it would be unreasonable for the camp to be expected to finance this level of support.

Camps are not a statutory provision and are therefore not obliged to provide this level of assistance but will consider options to support families where possible.

When considering the suitability of a Camp place, parents/carers should remember that their child may be attending an unfamiliar setting, sharing with other children, and undertaking activities that require compliance with instructions and procedures to ensure their safety.

When making a booking, parents/carers are required to inform our Customer Experience team if their child has any Special Educational Needs (SEN). Our staff will discuss your child's requirements with you and the Inclusion Manager will make an initial assessment of the suitability of our offer and whether the environment is appropriate. We have a questionnaire to be completed to gather further information – and we ask that you are as comprehensive and open as possible in the information you supply. The completed questionnaire is then reviewed and passed the camp team ahead of the child's arrival.

Every child must be able to participate in our activities within our staffing ratios; we cannot provide anything over and above our standard supervision ratios. We cannot offer 1:1 supervision. We provide staffing to meet the current ratios for Under 8's as 1:8 and Over 8's as 1:12. Any child who needs 1:1 supervision are still welcome to attend our camps on the condition that they bring along their own carer at their own cost.

That carer must have a current and clear Disclosure Barring Service (DBS) check to be brought to camp and fulfil our safer recruitment check requirements. Our HR team and camp management require a copy of that certificate before the child's commencement at camp for our own records and for inspection by OFSTED, if necessary. Although our staff receive 'in house' training in dealing with and managing a broad spectrum range of behaviours, they are not specialists in conditions such as ADHD and autism.

We recognise that there is a full spectrum of behavioural traits and that most do not impact a child's participation; however, we require all children to conform to our agreed group rules. We reserve the right to review the place of anyone whose behaviour is unacceptable.

Prior to placing a booking, you must have read and understood the 'your responsibility' section of our Terms and Conditions.

Appendix B | Example Adjustments

It's against the law to treat a person with disabilities less favourably because of anything relating to their disability. This includes anything which is the result, effect or outcome of their disability. For example, having an assistance dog or arriving later from a medical appointment. This can also include behaviour that is a result of their impairment. This only applies if we know or could reasonably be expected to know that the person is disabled. We make reasonable adjustments for the person to accommodate their abilities and behaviours.

When it comes to challenging behaviour, there is no one single adjustment that will work for everyone. Each situation will need to be handled on a case-by-case basis. Below is one example of how reasonable adjustments could be made:

Together a camp agrees on the standards of behaviour for anyone taking part in activities. This includes listening to instructions and not hurting others. The leaders explain that members should not break these agreements.

One child has a learning disability. Due to her disability, she doesn't always understand when to be loud or quiet. Sometimes, she shouts loudly, even when everyone has been asked to be quiet.

The leaders knew about this because they had talked to her parents. They know that she doesn't understand, so they and the other young members don't mind if she shouts. This is a reasonable adjustment they have made to the standards of behaviour they apply. It supports her to be a part of the camp.

The following week, her behaviour escalated. She was not just speaking out; she became increasingly aggressive to staff and other children. The camp leaders talk to her parents again. They agree to try different ways to manage this, such as sitting her to one side while she calms down. They keep a record of everything they agree to do with the parents, so everyone is clear of the support needs and the reasonable adjustments being tried and put into place.

Unfortunately, the behaviour continues to escalate, and she becomes a danger to herself and others by not following instructions. This goes beyond what the camp can reasonably provide, and so the family and camp agree that her continued attendance is not safe for all parties.

The law recognises that there might be times where reasonable adjustments have been made, but further adjustment is unreasonable given the resources of the camp.