

Aktiva Camps Limited at Little Ealing Primary School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY378512
Inspection date	03/08/2009
Inspector	Christine Bonnett
Setting address	Little Ealing Primary School, Little Ealing Lane, LONDON, W5 4EA
Telephone number	0208 567 2135
Email	information@leps.org.uk
Type of setting	Childcare on non-domestic premises

Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

Description of the setting

Aktiva Camps Limited at Little Ealing Primary School is one of three holiday playschemes run by Aktiva Camps Limited. It opened in 2009 and operates from rooms and grounds within Little Ealing Primary School, in the London borough of Ealing. All facilities are on ground level. A maximum of 64 children aged from four to eight years may attend at any one time, all of whom may be in the early years age group. Places are also available for children aged from eight to 12 years. It is open each weekday from 09:00 to 17:00 during every school holiday. Children have access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 72 children aged from four to the end of the early years age group on roll. Some attend on a part-time basis. The setting is registered on the Early Years Register, compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The nursery has 55 staff on roll, of whom 30 hold appropriate early years qualifications.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. Children enjoy a fun and active experience at the camp. Although children up to 12 years attend, this does not have an adverse impact on the care and well-being of the youngest children. The effective organisation ensures that children within the early years age group have their own base room, with skilled and experienced staff to supervise them at all times. In addition, by working closely with parents, the staff find out about the individual needs of the children and effectively incorporate them into the routine of the day. The management team continuously evaluates the work of the camp and are committed to building upon the existing good practice for the benefit of the children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- improve hygiene standards in the children's cloakrooms by ensuring they are clean and stocked with essential items before the children arrive, to promote their health and prevent the risk of cross infection.
- enable children to develop good hygiene practices by ensuring they wash their hands before eating to prevent the risk of cross infection.

To fully meet the specific requirements of the EYFS, the registered person must:

- ensure that a record is kept of the information the provider has used to assess the suitability of staff to demonstrate to Ofsted that checks have been carried out, including the unique reference numbers of CRB Disclosures obtained and the date on which they were obtained (Suitable people)

17/08/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Children's safety is generally given high priority. Systems are in place to prevent children leaving the grounds unsupervised or intruders entering. Risk assessments are conducted on all areas that the children access to minimise hazards. The management team have a good knowledge and understanding of child protection matters, including the procedure for reporting concerns. Although the robust recruitment and vetting procedures of staff ensure all adults having unsupervised contact with the children are suitable to do so, evidence of the checks is not available on the premises to demonstrate this to Ofsted. This is a breach of the Early Years Foundation Stage welfare requirements.

The management team are motivated and keen to ensure they continue to provide good quality provision for children. Consequently, they have a clear vision of how they wish to enhance the practice of the camp. Self-evaluation is carried out effectively to identify areas of strength, as well as those to develop. The evaluation process involves the parents, children and staff to ensure all parties have a voice in influencing positive change.

Staff work effectively in partnership with parents. They understand the importance of obtaining detailed information from them about their child. This ensures the children's individual needs are met, and they gain maximum benefit from attending the camp, by having their particular interests included in the activity schedule. All policies and procedures are available for parents to consult, and a variety of relevant information displayed to keep parents well informed about how the camp is managed.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are offered a stimulating and challenging time at the camp. The wide variety of experiences provided for them ensures that each child is able to engage in an exciting activity that particularly interests them each day. Each child completes an 'I form' with their key person listing all their favourite things and other relevant information, including what they like to be called and their family members. This enables staff to get to know each child well, and helps the child to make positive links with staff, to develop a sense of security and confidence.

The emphasis at the camp is 'fun and fitness'. Accordingly, children are able to choose to engage in activities such as dance, parachute games and football, a particular favourite with all the children is dodge ball. All these are available to, and enjoyed by, both girls and boys. In addition to the active sessions, the programme also includes activities to promote learning and development in all other areas. This includes drama, stained-glass painting, story sessions and clay modelling. Children's independence is also promoted, as they are able to choose other play materials to use. The room leaders thorough knowledge of the six areas of learning ensures that each one is covered sufficiently in the planning. Children

are observed, and the findings evaluated, to assess their level of attainment. 'Moving on' sheets are completed to identify the next step in each child's individual learning journey. The planned activities are then adjusted in length and/or complexity to suit each child's needs to enable them to enjoy as well as learn from the experience.

As well as fostering children's physical fitness through plenty of exercise, healthy eating is also promoted. The camp gives parents advice about which foods to pack for their child's lunch. Children are strongly encouraged not to share their food because of the importance of respecting the individual dietary needs of others. However, all aspects of children's health are not fully promoted. The cloakrooms are not always checked by staff at the beginning of each day to make sure they that they are clean, and equipped with soap and toilet paper, to enable children to maintain good hygiene practices. Furthermore, children are not routinely reminded to wash their hands before eating their mid-morning snack or lunch to prevent the risk of cross infection.

Children's behaviour is good as they are busily engaged in meaningful activities all day. Staff give clear messages to them about what is expected of them, and facilitate the children to make their own rules, for the benefit of harmony and safety. These include not running in the base room, and not using the outdoor equipment belonging to the school. Staff use age appropriate and positive strategies, such as reminding children of the rules and why they are made, to manage any difficulties that might arise.

Staff are interested in the children and offer kindness and support to make each one feel valued, for example, by allowing family members to be in the same base room and not split-up because of their ages. This contributes towards the camp's commitment towards inclusion and promoting positive outcomes for all.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

Overall effectiveness

How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	2
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	2

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	2
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	2
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	2

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	2
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	2
How well are children helped to stay safe?	2
How well are children helped to be healthy?	3
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	2
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	2
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	3

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are: Met

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met