

Barracudas Activity Camp

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number 118594
Inspection date 12/04/2012
Inspector Caroline Preston

Setting address Coopers' & Coborn School, St. Mary's Lane, Upminster,
Essex, RM14 3HS
Telephone number 0845 123 5299
Email info@barracudas.co.uk
Type of setting Childcare - Non-Domestic

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

© Crown copyright 2012

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.

Please see our website for more information about each childcare provider. We publish inspection reports, conditions of registration and details of complaints we receive where we or the provider take action to meet the requirements of registration.

Description of the setting

Barracudas Summer Activity Camp is a well-established holiday play scheme. It is run by the Young World Leisure Group and operates from the Coopers and Coborn School, in a residential area of Upminster, in the London borough of Havering. The camp uses many of the school facilities including the sports hall, swimming pool, changing rooms, dining room, drama room, two art rooms, the P.E room and various classrooms. Children also have access to the school sports fields. The camp serves the local and wider community.

The camp operates during the school Summer and Easter holidays only and is open Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 5.30pm. Children may attend the morning club from 8am to 6pm for an additional fee. A maximum of 130 children aged four to under eight years may attend the camp at any one time. There are currently 103 children aged from four to 12 years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The Camp is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

Young World Leisure Group employs a qualified teacher to be responsible for the day to day management of the setting. In addition there are 14 staff who work directly with the children, two of whom are qualified. Of these, 11 members of staff are currently working towards a teaching qualification. All staff receive in house training before the camp opens.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

Children's needs are met overall and they make good progress towards the early learning goals of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Children enjoy many large outdoor and indoor physical activities at camp. However, staff do not fully manage children's behaviour. Effective safeguarding procedures help to safeguard children. Partnerships with parents are good which supports children's needs. Good continuous improvement means that staff update their skills before each camp starts. Robust self-evaluation helps the camp to review and improve practice regularly.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- have agreed procedures outlining how to respond to negative changes in children's behaviour during play.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are effectively safeguarded, staff know and understand how to identify any concerns and follow relevant procedures. All staff attend regular training and detailed risk assessments means that all areas of the camp are safe. All documentation show all children's details and staff refer to these before children start. This means they are aware of all the relevant records in order to be able to care for the children. There are currently no children on roll who attend other settings or need support from other agencies. However, the camp is aware of the need to work in partnership with any other settings if the need arises.

The Camp embeds good ambition and drives improvement, all staff attend thorough training before starting. Staff undertake a range of different courses to up-date their knowledge of the camp's policies and procedures. Robust self-evaluation after each term helps to develop practice. Children and parents take part in self-evaluation and suggest ideas they have.

Equality and diversity is fostered well, all children's needs are known by staff who work well to make sure the Holiday camp is good fun. Children have access to toys and books promoting differences. Partnership with parents is strong, staff interact professionally and give good feedback about each child's camp experience. Staff obtain all relevant details from parents, and speak daily to them, they also complete 'All about me' book' to give to parents. These have written observations about each child's progress during the activities offered. Parents are also invited to give feedback about the camp, to help improve the service offered.

The quality and standards of the early years provision and outcomes for children

Children develop skills for the future as they handle and play with a good range of programmable toys. They learn how these work and they are part of their role play activities. Children learn about healthy lifestyles, they enjoy a full range of effective physical activities. They know the importance of hygiene and wash their hands before and after eating. Children enjoy purchasing fruits from the camp's fruit shop.

Children feel safe as they learn the importance of safety rules when taking part in the camp's activities. They listen intently to staff reinforcing how to stay safe, and walk around the camp each day revisiting the possible dangers. Children play well together, they take turns and share most of the time. Staff are good at supervising children and addressing any negative behaviour. However, staff do not always express to children the seriousness of repeating negative behaviour through behaviour strategies.

Staff know how children learn and develop and offer them a good range of different play experiences. Observations and planning of activities means that

children progress in all six areas of development.

Children are excited to play they enjoy all the camp's activities. They interact well with each other and form good relationships in the small amount of time at camp. Children can undress and dress themselves, such as during swimming activities. Children can write their own names. They enjoy listening to stories and chatting to each other during activities.

Children develop early counting skills, as they count their foot steps to their playroom. They move with confidence as they slide down the huge inflatable slide. They move with control and safety on the large trampoline. They recognize the changes in their body, during swimming activities.

Children are creative during 'talent shows' and enjoy painting and colouring. Children design and construct with building bricks.

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

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	2

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	2
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	2
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	2
The effectiveness of partnerships	3
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	2

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
--	---

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	2
The extent to which children feel safe	2
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	2
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	2

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