

Barracudas Activity Camp

St. Catherines School, Cross Deep, Twickenham, Middlesex, TW1 4QJ



Inspection date	21 July 2015
Previous inspection date	25 July 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children's safety is a priority. Staff have an outstanding knowledge of safeguarding children and know what to do if they have any child protection concerns.
- The management team is highly effective in driving improvements and is committed to achieving excellence in all areas. They have extremely strong reflective practices that value the opinions of the parents.
- Staff develop exceptional relationships with the children in a short space of time. They understand their different needs and, as a result, children are very confident and settled in their care.
- Staff provide children with an exceptional selection of resources and activities, although there are fewer opportunities to use information technology. There is a strong focus on the importance of allowing children to make their own decisions and choosing the activities they wish to do.
- The club employs mostly long-standing staff who are highly qualified. Staff use their individual strengths and qualifications to provide children with exciting opportunities, such as drama and karate.
- Staff promote a very healthy lifestyle. Ample time is spent outside for children to engage in physical activities. Staff encourage parents to provide a healthy packed lunch and they provide a fruit bar for children to buy their own fruit.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's play by providing more opportunities for them to use information technology.

Inspection activities

- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children and the provider's procedures for self-evaluation.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager/nominated person.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to children and observed their play.

Inspector

Jessica Richardson

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

Staff are outstanding at encouraging children to be independent and make their own decisions. Although this is a holiday club, they encourage young children to complete basic activities, such as dressing themselves, to support them when they move on to school. Staff are highly motivated and enthusiastically interact with the children and engage them in stimulating play. They talk consistently to children throughout the activities and ask questions to develop their communication skills. As a result, children are very confident communicators. Staff put an exceptional focus on friendship groups and ensuring that children are in groups where they know another child. This helps children to thoroughly enjoy their time at the club. Staff build very strong relationships with parents and ensure essential information is shared. Parents are able to select focus groups for their child to attend to provide them with additional experiences during their time at the club. For example, children can complete a week of swimming lessons.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Staff provide a very safe and stimulating environment for children to play in. Staff continually address risks through the day and deal with them promptly so activities are kept very safe for children. For example, staff ensure that the ground is flat before starting an outdoor game. Staff teach children how to keep themselves safe through very frequent fire drills. These are completed once a week so that children that attend for different hours all understand what to do. Staff are very good role models. They provide children with highly effective behavioural boundaries which reflect the different age groups attending. As a result, children behave very well at the club. Staff recognise and celebrate children's positive behaviour throughout the day. Staff have exceptional systems in place to gain information about children's interests and needs. This information is used to help children settle into the new environment.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

Managers have an outstanding understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements. They inspire the staff to provide the best experiences and care for children. Highly effective arrangements for recruiting new staff, for regular supervision and for checking staff performance lead to the highest level of practice. Managers use a thorough induction process to ensure staff have an excellent understanding of their responsibilities such as safeguarding, health and safety, and behaviour management. There is a sharp focus on making ongoing changes to benefit children. For example, the management team analyses accident records and makes changes to reduce accidents. It has reorganised the period after lunch after identifying that most accidents took place during this time.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY330986
Local authority	Richmond upon Thames
Inspection number	993914
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 8
Total number of places	140
Number of children on roll	40
Name of provider	Young World Leisure Group Limited
Date of previous inspection	25 July 2012
Telephone number	0845 123 5299

Barracudas Activity Camp in Twickenham registered in 2006 and is one of 27 provisions run by a private company. It operates from a primary school in Twickenham, in the London Borough of Richmond. The setting runs for two weeks at Easter and five weeks during the summer break. It operates Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm. A team of 26 staff are employed. All of the staff that work with the younger children are qualified in early years; the majority are qualified teachers.

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