

Barracudas Activity Camp

Coopers' & Coborn School, St. Mary's Lane, Upminster, Essex, RM14 3HS



Inspection date

29 July 2015

Previous inspection date

12 April 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- The management team has extremely high standards and recognises that the professional development of staff is crucial in maintaining these. Staff attend focused training events, such as fencing, so that they plan precisely for children's play and learning.
- Children take part in an extensive range of activities, including wall climbing, swimming and circus skills training. This provides children with exceptional play and learning experiences.
- There are exceptional safeguarding arrangements that keep children safe. This includes staff's knowledge of child protection issues and procedures to follow in the event of a concern. Staff also very closely monitor access to the provision and the arrival and collection of children.
- Children behave exceptionally well and staff are exemplary role models. As a result, children show mutual respect and concern for each other, the staff and the environment.
- Themed events, for example, cultural week and world book week, provide fantastic opportunities to extend children's learning of the wider world.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to find innovative ways to include children's contributions in activities and planned events.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and the quality of teaching practice indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the early years manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents on the day of inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and looked at relevant documentation, including safeguarding procedures, risk assessments and staff suitability records.

Inspector

Lisa Paisley

Inspection findings

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

Staff are extremely experienced and committed. Children have tremendous fun and staff skilfully extend activities to offer an excellent level of challenge. Sessions are extremely well organised so that all children have an equal chance of taking part in activities, such as wall climbing, arts and crafts and cricket games. Children's ideas and suggestions are recorded and staff use these comments for future activities, although some children contribute more fully than others. Children concentrate well as they look at shapes and practise counting in all types of activity. They draw and cut out pictures of themselves, and they make their own name labels for self-registration. This supports their writing and creative skills, and complements the work children do at school.

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

On arrival, children are enthusiastically welcomed by the team and are quickly helped to settle into their base room. They have excellent opportunities to be physically active and take full advantage of the extensive school grounds. Snacks provided are healthy and nutritionally balanced, and staff offer excellent support to promote healthy lifestyles. Staff are vigilant at reminding children to have a drink when they feel thirsty. Staff give children continuous praise and encouragement, which promotes their self-esteem. Children have an excellent understanding of how to keep themselves and others safe. Staff teach children to be aware of each other and to be vigilant when moving between indoor and outdoor activities. Children draw a stop line on the floor to show where they need to stand when lining up. Regular fire drills also contribute to keeping children safe.

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

The manager demonstrates an excellent working knowledge of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The management team is very successful in recruiting, vetting, deploying and retaining qualified and experienced staff. Performance management is robust and rigorous, and this maintains an excellent level of professionalism. All staff have a first-rate understanding of what is expected of them. Staff enjoy their work and feel valued by management, which successfully makes sure children are safe and have excellent play and learning experiences. The management team uses regular meetings with the staff to support accurate self-evaluation. Priorities for improvement are superbly targeted. For example, there have been improvements to the arrival and departure procedures for the children. Staff are proactive and inventive in the sharing of information. Parents are extremely complimentary of the provision. They feel that activities are varied and extensive and that staff are 'fantastic'.

Setting details

Unique reference number	118594
Local authority	Havering
Inspection number	840199
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 66
Total number of places	132
Number of children on roll	137
Name of provider	Young World Leisure Group Limited
Date of previous inspection	12 April 2012
Telephone number	0845 123 5299

Barracudas Summer Activity Camp registered in 2001. The activity camp is located in the Coppers and Coburn School in Upminster, in the London Borough of Havering. The provision employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold Qualified Teacher Status. The provision opens from Monday to Friday during the Easter and summer holidays. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm.

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