

Barracudas Activity Camp

Walthamstow Hall, Holly Bush Lane, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 3UL



Inspection date	12 August 2015
Previous inspection date	19 August 2009

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

- Children are provided with an outstanding range of different experiences. Staff motivate children extremely well, which helps develop their enthusiasm for taking part. As a result, all children engage exceptionally well in their play and activities.
- Staff use highly effective strategies to support children who speak English as an additional language and those who require additional support. This means all children are included extremely well and thoroughly enjoy their time at the camp.
- Management gives safeguarding and child protection a high priority. They ensure staff have an exceptional knowledge of safeguarding procedures, including who to contact should they have concerns about children's welfare or other staff. This promotes children's safety and well-being very effectively.
- Management are very committed and determined to continue to improve the already high-quality practice. All staff show a high level of dedication to providing very good quality care and exceptional activities.
- Children have their individual needs met extremely well by staff. They form excellent relationships with staff. As a result, they have a high level of well-being and an exceptional sense of belonging.
- Staff maintain excellent communication with parents so that they feel included. Parents are exceptionally well informed about their children's day and their activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review how the environment is arranged so that children have areas that are inviting for them to quietly rest and relax in.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the indoor and outside environments.
- The inspector observed the staff's interaction with children.
- The inspector looked at the written documentation, including a sample of the policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke to children, parents and staff, and took their views in to consideration.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

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

Children take an active role in contributing to the running of the activity camp. They offer their ideas, which staff use to help plan activities on a daily basis. Children thoroughly enjoy the wide range of exciting experiences on offer. The wide variety of resources means that children of different ages and abilities easily take part in the activities. Children develop excellent confidence and concentration through taking part in new and challenging experiences, such as creating and designing artwork, swimming and theatre performances. Children particularly enjoyed the physical activities from specialist and highly qualified inspirational staff who teach them a wide variety of techniques and skills. Children seek staff out to share their great excitement during activities and very confidently ask for help when needed. Staff encourage children to make their own choices extremely well. They use a wide range of strategies to support children's understanding of these, particularly those who are learning English.

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

Staff gain very useful information from parents when children first start and use this to help them settle in. They offer children exceptional support and encouragement and establish a high level of trust with them. Staff are deployed extremely well with the children, which means they supervise them constantly and are involved in the activities. As a result, they engage children very effectively and promote their safety extremely well. Staff are exceptional role models to children, which helps them to understand the behaviour expectations. Children take turns and share harmoniously and show an excellent sense of empathy and care for others. Overall, staff provide a very welcoming and inviting environment. However, staff have not fully considered the quiet areas, which are less inviting to the children. Staff very effectively promote children's good health. For example, children receive awards for their healthy lunch boxes.

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

Management has an excellent understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements. They effectively monitor the quality of the activity camp to continue to make very positive changes that benefit children. For example, children now benefit from activities run by staff trained in specific skills. As a result, children benefit from trying a wide range of activities. Management follows extremely effective procedures to check staff suitability to work with children. They carry out extremely vigorous checks on all staff, which reflects an exceptionally clear focus on safeguarding children. The manager supports staff's continuing professional development extremely well, with motivating training and regular meetings. As a result, staff feel enthused, supported and valued.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127005
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	840597
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 8
Total number of places	232
Number of children on roll	123
Name of provider	Young World Leisure Group Limited
Date of previous inspection	19 August 2009
Telephone number	0845 123 5299

Barracudas Activity Camp registered in 2000 and operates from Walthamstow Hall in Sevenoaks, Kent. The camp is open for four weeks during the summer holidays, Monday to Friday, from 8.30am to 5.30pm. Children can attend from 8am and stay until 6pm at an additional cost. The provider employs a total of 43 staff, of these, nine work with the early years children. All staff hold relevant qualifications.

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