

St Lukes Holiday Playscheme



St. Lukes Community Sports Centre, Greetham Street, SOUTHSEA, Hampshire, PO5 4LH

Inspection date	13 August 2015
Previous inspection date	13 August 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
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		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff promote children's well-being exceptionally well. They are highly aware of children's unique needs and provide an excellent service, particularly to the most vulnerable children.
- Children flourish in the play camp. They show high levels of confidence and strong relationships with their friends and adults. Staff are very good role models in promoting positive outcomes for children.
- An extensive range of exciting and varied play activities are on offer. Children evaluate these activities themselves each session and are always positive about them. Children develop good skills for their future.
- There is a very strong emphasis on safeguarding children. All staff are fully trained and follow strict guidelines when children are collected by adults at the end of the day, to keep them safe.
- The leadership team is effective in self-evaluation and driving improvement. There is a strong commitment towards achieving excellence.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The staff do not always provide very high-quality resources during creative play activities. They do not always further extend children's creative play and promote further conversations with adults about children's creative ideas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve opportunities for children to have conversations and talk about their design ideas, for example, by extending the use of resources during creative play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children's play activities and lunchtime routine.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager about leadership and management, discussed self-evaluation and looked at relevant documentation.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Lorraine Wardlaw

Inspection findings

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

The staff meet children's play needs well. Staff provide children with a good range of exciting activities, both chosen by the children and adult-led. Children thoroughly enjoy their leisure time and have fun with their friends or siblings, developing the skills they have learnt earlier in life. Children are enthusiastic, fully engaged and well motivated, making their own play decisions from a stimulating, well-planned timetable of activities. Children's choices include smash badminton, parlour games, bridge building as a team, swimming and designing with plastic construction sets. Children develop a range of talents, particularly personal, social and emotional skills. It is a calm but busy place with all children very happily involved in different play opportunities throughout the day. Staff are close by supporting children well, talking and playing with them. They share books with children and have some interesting conversations with them. Children enjoy a wide range of off-site visits such as using a grid map and going on a treasure hunt.

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

Children thrive at the extremely well-organised holiday camp because staff are highly receptive to their care needs. Staff are very observant and very aware of their role as key person in supporting each individual child; particularly when young children need a rest or special attention on arrival. The excellent consideration by staff to promote strong levels of confidence amongst the children and secure emotional attachments shines through. Children demonstrate excellent behaviour and play harmoniously with one another throughout the day. They are very safe and secure because of the high attention to safeguarding procedures by the staff. The highly stimulating environment provides very well for children's play needs; they are very physically active and focused. Children learn good healthy practices, such as how to make fruit salad, and freely access drinking water.

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

The efficient and effective management team implements robust policies and procedures to ensure they meet all the requirements. This includes the rigorous induction and recruitment of all staff. The manager shows passion and inspiration in his leadership and ensures the staff carry out their roles and responsibilities successfully. The team includes permanent and casual staff; they are well qualified, and there is a strong emphasis on performance management. The management provides effective training for staff, specifically about children's play principles which successfully drives improvement at the holiday camp. Partnerships with parents, and others who support children with special educational needs, are strong. Effective teamwork and communication ensures that everyone has a full picture of each child's unique needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	143460
Local authority	Portsmouth
Inspection number	841604
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 8
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	54
Name of provider	YMCA Fairthorne Group
Date of previous inspection	13 August 2009
Telephone number	07789 483 709

St Lukes Holiday Playscheme has been registered in these premises since 2001. It is one of several schemes run by YMCA Fairthorne Group, and operates out of St Lukes Community Sports Centre in the Sommerstown area of Portsmouth. The playscheme has sole use of the large sports hall. It is open each weekday during school holidays from 8.30 am to 5.30 pm. The manager holds Early Years Professional Status and two staff hold Qualified Teacher Status. Of the remaining 10 staff, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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