

Inspection date	27 August 2015
Previous inspection date	3 June 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Requires improvement	3
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Staff are not fully secure in their understanding of the role of the key person. Therefore, the settling-in process does not always meet the individual needs of younger children.
- Staff do not make best use of all opportunities to work closely with parents, in particular to engage them in promoting healthy eating and help children manage change more effectively.

It has the following strengths

- Children generally enjoy their time at the club. Staff are friendly and approachable, and they treat children with respect. As a result, children behave well and learn to play cooperatively.
- Staff are enthusiastic and know how to engage children in activities which interest them, and enhance children's learning and development.
- Children's physical development is supported through a range of sports and high-energy activities. This promotes children's well-being and extends the learning they receive at school.
- Managers ensure staff have a suitable understanding of the club's policies and procedures for safeguarding children; staff place a high priority in keeping children safe. Staff attend relevant safeguarding training and know how to identify and report any welfare concerns.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- improve staff knowledge and understanding of the role of the key person, and ensure this is implemented effectively to fully meet the needs of young children.

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

- work more closely with all parents in order to determine how to effectively engage them in children's settling-in processes and further promote healthy eating.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents.
- The inspector observed children's activities with the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with the staff about their knowledge and implementation of the safeguarding policies and procedures.
- The inspector held a leadership and management meeting with the provider and sampled key documentation.

Inspector

Carolina Montesinos

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement

Staff interact with children, joining in their activities and encouraging risk-taking. This helps children to concentrate and challenge their own abilities. Staff regularly introduce children to new experiences, which complements their learning at school. For example, younger children learn coordination and movement through obstacle courses using sports equipment. Generally, staff get to know children because they listen to their views and observe them; however, due to the gaps in fully establishing a key-person system, staff do not always meet younger children's needs. Despite this, staff do take into account children's interests. For example, they provide alternatives for children who do not want to join in with a main activity. Staff use planned activities effectively to teach children how to take turns, to persevere in completing tasks and to play cooperatively. This supports children's development and prepares them well for the next stage in their learning.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children requires improvement

Overall, staff provide caring relationships to the children, and they generally arrive happily at the club and seek out other friends to play and talk to. However, the role of key person is not fully understood or implemented by staff. As a result, some children find it hard to settle in. Children's safety is a priority as the staff complete daily checks of the premises and a number of them benefit from up-to-date paediatric first-aid training. Children behave well according to their age; they take responsibility for their belongings and follow instructions. Staff support children to learn about keeping healthy through promoting physical activity. Additionally, they foster children's independence through daily routines, such as lunchtime, and through choosing their own activities. Children have a secure understanding of good hygiene practices. For example, children independently wash their hands before meals. However, staff do not fully involve parents in promoting the club's healthy eating policy to ensure continuity in meeting children's physical care needs.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement

The manager has a suitable understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. He ensures appropriate recruitment and suitability checks are in place to protect children's safety and welfare. There are adequate systems to gather key information about children, which staff use to plan for individual care needs, such as medical or dietary requirements. Suitable processes for self-evaluation are in place to help improve the quality of the provision and monitor children's needs; staff seek the views of parents to further develop the service. Staff receive regular supervision to improve their practice and identify training; this helps to improve outcomes for children. For example, some staff use their skills as trained sports coaches to promote children's current interests and challenge them further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	116360
Local authority	Camden
Inspection number	835977
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	Central Young Men's Christian Association
Date of previous inspection	3 June 2010
Telephone number	020 7343 1700

Y Active registered in 1996 and operates from Central YMCA gym in London's West End, in the London Borough of Camden. The holiday play scheme is open each weekday from 8.30am to 5.30pm, during every school holiday, and Saturdays from 10am to 1pm during term time. The provider employs 18 staff; five of whom, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications and most of the other staff hold other relevant qualifications.

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