

Highland Games

King Alfred School, 149 North End Road, London, NW11 7HY



Inspection date	27 October 2015
Previous inspection date	13 April 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The strong staff team works effectively together. They are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities and deploy themselves well throughout the club to support the children.
- Staff know the children very well and meet their learning needs effectively. Children enjoy what they are doing and happily join in with planned activities.
- Management and staff promote children's well-being and care needs exceptionally well. They are extremely kind and caring towards the children.
- Staff establish good partnerships with parents. Parents are very positive about the care their children receive and comment on the approachable staff.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although children choose from a wide variety of activities, there are occasions when staff are too directive and do not always give children opportunities to explore their own creative ideas fully.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen opportunities for children to explore and develop their own creative ideas.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and staff interaction in classrooms and the gym area.
- The inspector talked to parents, staff and children, and held regular discussions with the manager.
- The inspector examined documentation, including a representative sample of children's records, development plans and staff records.

Inspector

Julie Biddle

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff clearly understand child protection procedures and their responsibility to safeguard children. Children benefit from a staff team and provider that are committed to, and strive to, continually improve. The provider regularly reviews staff practice and involves them fully in evaluating activities. The views of parents are valued and used to make changes in the club; benefiting the children who attend. The provider has a good understanding of how to implement the statutory requirements. Staff complete training before each playscheme to ensure they understand their responsibilities. Good communication systems help staff to identify any areas where children need more support to enable them to feel comfortable. Staff are vigilant about children's safety, indoors and as they move around the site. Children are secure and safe as they play. Recruitment is robust and includes ongoing suitability checks, which help ensure children are cared for by staff that are and remain suitable for their roles.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The club provides a busy, motivating space for children to enjoy activities. Staff know the children very well and plan activities that offer challenge and meet their needs overall. Staff support children to make choices and to change activities if they wish. This helps children to feel confident and able to express their views. Staff provide interesting activities for children to choose from. For example, obstacle courses with ropes to climb and active games help children to understand about working as a team. Children have very positive experiences of their own abilities and have many opportunities to develop new skills. Staff use these games to talk to children about safety. Children are encouraged to take safe risks and understand the implications of caring for others as they play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children show high levels of self-awareness and self-confidence. They have warm caring relationships with staff and with each other. Children who have not known each other before build happy, secure friendships, which help them to become self-reliant. Staff offer high levels of support to children who are new to the club, helping them to settle. Children of all ages are extremely confident to contribute their views and feelings. Staff praise and encourage their input exceptionally well. For example, staff use games to develop children's sense of rhythm and show respect for each other's skills. Children understand the importance of personal care routines and wash their hands before eating. Staff understand and respect children's dietary and medical needs exceptionally well. Children have excellent opportunities to learn about the importance of listening to adults and their friends. They know to follow instructions and how instructions help to keep them safe.

Outcomes for children

Setting details

Unique reference number	147553
Local authority	Barnet
Inspection number	993937
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 8
Total number of places	48
Number of children on roll	32
Name of provider	The Highland Games Activity Weeks Limited
Date of previous inspection	13 April 2010
Telephone number	020 8202 5179

Highland Games registered in 1997. The club operates from King Alfred School in the London Borough of Barnet. The club is open in the school holidays, each weekday from 9am to 3pm. The provider employs four suitably qualified staff to work with the children.

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