

Barracudas (Cambridge)

St. Faiths School, Trumpington Road, CAMBRIDGE, CB2 8AG



Inspection date	26 July 2016
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The early years manager inspires and motivates staff through an unwavering commitment to ensure that all children have the highest-quality care and play experiences. She has exemplary knowledge of the early years foundation stage. This is shared with the suitable, well-qualified staff. Together, they extend opportunities that enable children to develop even further through play.
- Staff talk with parents prior to and during their child's time at the club. This helps them to work in partnership with each family to ensure that their child receives the correct additional support where required.
- High-quality systems are in place to ensure that staff are fully supported in their professional development. Staff supervision is a high priority, based on observations of their practice, self-appraisal and discussion. This attention to their ongoing development ultimately enhances the quality of coaching and support children receive.
- Children's confidence and self-esteem is very high, as the attention from their key person is based on knowledge about their personal needs and family backgrounds.
- Parents are extremely complimentary about the club and activities offered. They comment on the attention to detail by staff, of how approachable the staff are and how their child, 'Loves to come'.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary. Staff provide clear boundaries and consistently implement the behaviour management policy.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide even more opportunities for children to play and explore the natural environment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of staff interaction during activities and assessed the impact this has on children.
- The inspector discussed a planned activity with the early years manager.
- The inspector checked relevant documentation, including training certificates and evidence of the suitability checks for all members of staff.
- The inspector reviewed reflective practice procedures and read the self-evaluation document compiled by the early years manager, in partnership with staff, parents and children.
- The inspector took account of feedback from parents and children.

Inspector

Lynn Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

A robust system is in place for tracking and analysing children's safety. This, together with the links staff have with a range of other professional services, ensures children's welfare remains top priority and any concerns are dealt with swiftly. The various skills and experiences of staff are clearly used exceptionally well for the benefit of all children. An exemplary evaluation of the club's strengths and weaknesses is carried out and clear plans are identified to secure continuous improvement. Children have positively benefited from identified improvements. They thoroughly enjoy looking through social story booklets, sent to them before they start at the club. These include photographs of the staff and club activities, helping them to know what to expect. Staff, children, parents and other providers are fully involved in the evaluation of the club. Their views and ideas are actively listened to and acted on. The management team plans to enrich children's play even further by enhancing opportunities for exploration of natural areas outside. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a wealth of knowledge and understanding of how to protect children's welfare. For example, robust recruitment and risk assessment are in place, along with a comprehensive knowledge of what to do and who to contact if they have a safeguarding concern.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children thrive in this inspirational holiday club. Staff provide endlessly exciting opportunities that enable children to communicate their thoughts and ideas. Children achieve this, as they explore and experience resources that promote their curiosity and challenge their thinking further. For example, they engage in scientific activities and discover how to recreate bubbling volcanoes or make bouncy balls from rubber. Their enthusiasm is expertly harnessed by staff, who effectively engage them to increase their knowledge through practical experiences. While staff are not required to make ongoing assessments of children, they take time to observe and record children's interactions as they play. Each child's key person identifies areas, such as building confidence or developing interpersonal skills, to help children become more self-assured. Children have extensive opportunities to initiate both their own and team play. Young children particularly enjoy developing their physical skills as they join in with foam fencing. This helps to develop their coordination.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff have excellent skills and knowledge of specific sports, science and early years development. They provide exciting, stimulating and extremely well-organised activities and sporting events. Children develop their understanding of the rules of the game as they join in sphere criss-cross, motorsport, water slides and parachute games, to name but a few. Children clearly understand how to keep themselves safe and healthy in this stimulating and secure environment. They learn to make their own assessment of potential risks associated with go-karting and water play. Staff are highly skilled and sensitive, supporting children to form strong emotional attachments with each other. Children learn about the need for healthy food to provide them with energy and about how exercise positively affects their body as they participate in activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY476562
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	990296
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	4 - 16
Total number of places	200
Number of children on roll	154
Name of registered person	Young World Leisure Group Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900856
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	0845 123 5299

Barracudas (Cambridge) was registered in 2014. It is one of a large number of activity camps run by Young World Leisure Group Limited. This club employs 27 members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold a qualification at level 3 and above. The remaining staff are training to be teachers and sports coaches. The group opens from Monday to Friday, during the Easter and summer school holidays. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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