

Barracudas (Cambridge)

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



Inspection date	14 August 2019
Previous inspection date	26 July 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Not Applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The management team has high expectations about the quality of the provision. These are communicated well to staff through the assessment process that they go through prior to appointment, as well as induction days and ongoing discussions.
- Staff respond well to children's play cues. They know when to leave children to play independently and when to intervene and join in the play.
- Children respond well to the activities provided and readily make decisions about what they want to do. Staff are respectful of children's choices.
- Staff provide an extremely welcoming environment where children feel safe and secure. Children are very keen to attend and thoroughly enjoy their time in the setting.
- Staff are highly effective in supporting children to develop a positive sense of themselves. Equality and inclusion are at the heart of everything that staff do with the children. They are extremely successful in ensuring that all children are able to participate at their own level.
- Parents do not consistently receive sufficient information from staff about what their children have been doing during the session.
- Staff do not always consider the resources that they need for art activities to ensure there is a sufficient amount for the number of children. This sometimes restricts children's ability to fully explore their individual creativity.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore further ways to consistently share information with parents about their children's day and the activities they have taken part in
- review the resources needed for planned art activities so that there are sufficient materials for the number of children taking part.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outside.
- The inspector spoke with staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection and completed a joint observation with the early years manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team and also discussed self-evaluation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as policies and other records.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents during the inspection.

Inspector

Jacqueline Mason

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Members of the management team reflect on the quality of the provision. They are aware of their strengths and areas for development. For example, they recognise that the wide range of activities that children can access actively support their enjoyment of being in the setting. Even very young children can access activities, such as go-karts. The management team and staff carry out thorough risk assessments before any activity, to ensure that children can use equipment safely. Staff receive specialist training where needed. There is an effective recruitment process to ensure that those working with children are suitable for their role. Staff performance is monitored. The management team observes staff practice and provides additional mentoring and coaching when necessary. Relationships between staff are good. They work well together and are good role models for children. Safeguarding is effective. All staff complete training in child protection to ensure that they have a good awareness of the indicators of abuse and know how to report concerns.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are effective in supporting and facilitating children's play and enjoyment. They organise the day well to give children choice about what they want to do. Each day is broken into a number of sessions. Children have the option of two activity choices for each session. For example, at the inspection during session one, children had the choice of a nature hunt or motorsports. However, staff recognise that children may not want to do either and look at ways to facilitate this. The quality of interactions between staff and children is good. Staff engage children in conversation and actively listen to what they have to say. Children have a good vocabulary and are confident communicators. They enjoy exploring the nature area and talk confidently about the things they have found, such as pine cones, leaves and tree bark. Staff are good at extending activities. For example, after collecting natural materials on the nature hunt, children are encouraged to make observational drawings of things they have found.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children thoroughly enjoy their time in the setting. Parents speak highly of staff, describing them as 'caring' and 'approachable'. Staff are extremely sensitive to ensuring children's confidence and self-esteem are fully supported. For example, when staff read a story about an explorer, they ask children if they know what 'expedition' means. Children readily suggest what they think it means. Even though their answers are incorrect, staff highly value and support children's thoughts on the definition. They congratulate children on their thought processes and why they give the answers that they do. Children show high levels of concentration. They behave exceptionally well and develop good friendships with each other. Children respond well to the high expectations of staff. They learn to have regard for each other's needs and feelings and develop highly positive attitudes towards others. Staff talk to children in a calm, respectful manner. Children whose behaviour is more challenging are supported exceptionally well. Staff gently remind them about the need to share and consider the needs of others. Younger children form exceptionally secure emotional attachments to the consistent staff.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY476562
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10112930
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Out-of-school day care
Age range of children	4 - 14
Total number of places	200
Number of children on roll	636
Name of registered person	Young World Leisure Group Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900856
Date of previous inspection	26 July 2016
Telephone number	01480 467 567

Barracudas (Cambridge) registered in 2014 and is run by Young World Leisure Group Limited. The setting employs 43 members of childcare staff. Of these, seven hold an early years qualification at level 3 or above, including four with qualified teacher status. The setting opens from Monday to Friday, during the summer school holidays. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm.

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