

Inspection of Barracudas Horsham Millais

Millais School, Depot Road, Horsham RH13 5HR

Inspection date: 31 July 2024

The quality and standards of early years provision

This inspection

Met

Previous inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children of all ages are keen to arrive at the exciting holiday club. Staff support children as soon as they arrive to ensure that children feel welcomed and safe. They gather children into smaller groups, often with friends, to help them to feel less overwhelmed. Staff are gentle, kind and friendly. They engage children in conversations and begin to get to know more about them. Parents provide information about children which staff use to help plan activities based on children's current interests. This allows children to enjoy activities, such as crafts, which they are familiar and comfortable with.

The club is fully inclusive, and funding is applied for to allow children to attend the club who otherwise may not be able to. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are given targeted support to allow them to fully engage and enjoy themselves. Staff create an extremely positive environment. They play alongside the children and encourage them to persevere in activities and try new things. For example, staff recognise the individual needs and capabilities of each child and celebrate with them when they learn how to play new games, such as basketball. Children demonstrate their delight when staff and children cheer and clap for them.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Staff support children well to help them develop their independence skills. Children are responsible for dressing and undressing for activities, such as water park play. Children independently tidy away toys and resources that they have finished playing with. Staff give children small responsibilities to help them build their self-esteem and confidence.
- Staff are excellent role models and have high expectations of children's behaviour. They are respectful and calm and deal with any minor behaviour incidences promptly and sensitively. Consequently, children know what is expected of them and behave exceptionally well. They listen intently to safety instructions and details about activities. A visual timetable is effectively used to help children choose what they would like to do and know what is happening next.
- A key strength of the club is staff's overall attitude and practice towards children's safety. There are stringent recruitment and induction procedures in place and staff have a strong awareness of how to keep children safe and free from harm. The club has strict safety rules and boundaries in place to ensure that children can engage in activities, including activities that carry more risk. Children are routinely given detailed safety talks, which help them to understand how to keep themselves and others safe.

- Leaders and managers of the camp use daily reflection time to discuss ways to improve children's experiences at the club. Staff say that they feel extremely well supported by the hard-working managers. They say they are encouraged to give feedback, which helps them to feel valued and listened to. Leaders and managers review parent's evaluations and use this information to improve their already strong service. Parents mention that the club is very well managed, and the activities are of a superior standard.
- Staff are highly trained and effectively support children in a variety of activities. For example, they work alongside children to create their own flags for an upcoming 'Olympic Parade'. Children are encouraged to search for 'things that make them smile' when on a nature hunt in the woods. They learn about the properties of flowers and insects. They excitedly tell the inspector about how a bee collects pollen on its legs and how it can fly for 'miles and miles in a day'. Children excitedly remark that the club is 'better than going on holiday'.
- Children develop good language skills as they mix and play with other children. Staff speak clearly to children to ensure that they have understood what is being asked. Children demonstrate high levels of confidence in making new friends. Staff expertly and gently support some children to play with other children. They take time to get to know them and understand their individual personalities, offering support and guidance when needed.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2678907
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	10350602
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 at time of inspection	4 to 14
Total number of places	128
Number of children on roll	540
Name of registered person	Young World Leisure Group Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900856
Telephone number	01480467567
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Barracudas Horsham Millais operates from Millais School in Horsham, West Sussex. The club registered in 2022 and employs 33 members of staff, including four who hold qualified teacher status. The club opens in school holidays from 8am to 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Tina Lambert

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in her evaluation of the provider.
- Children spoke to the inspector about the activities they took part in.
- The inspector spoke to the managers, leaders and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of interactions between staff and children.
- Parents provided feedback about the club through discussions with the inspector.
- The inspector observed the quality of activities that were on offer.

We carried out this inspection 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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