

Inspection of Barracudas (Croydon)

Trinity School, Shirley Park, CROYDON CR9 7AT

Inspection date:

12 August 2025

**The quality and
standards of early
years provision**

**This
inspection**

Not met (with actions)

Previous
inspection

Met

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision does not meet requirements

Leaders and managers carry out comprehensive risk assessments across all areas of the camp. However, they do not ensure that all staff fully understand their responsibilities. As a result, risk assessments are not applied consistently. Although leaders have a knowledge of safeguarding policies and procedures, these are not always followed effectively. This means that children's welfare is not always fully assured and potential risks may not be addressed promptly. Staff receive training and induction, but leaders do not check that staff's knowledge remains secure.

Despite this, children enjoy their time at the camp. They have fun taking part in a wide range of sports, such as tennis, swimming and archery. This helps them to develop coordination, balance and teamwork skills. Staff carefully structure activities to help children to progress steadily in their abilities. Staff set clear expectations for children's behaviour and reinforce them consistently. They display rules in rooms and repeat them at the start of each session, covering routines, such as tidying up, listening and being kind. This helps children to understand boundaries and behave respectfully. Parents and carers value the information they receive, such as the timetable for the day.

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

- Leaders risk assess the activities on offer. They consider changes in conditions that could impact how activities are run. For example, in very hot weather, they provide a gazebo for shade. Staff are trained to check higher risk activities to manage potential hazards. However, on occasion, staff do not fully follow the risk assessments. This means that, at times, children's safety is compromised.
- Staff are alert to changes in children's behaviour or well-being that could signal children are at risk of harm. However, leaders do not always ensure that the procedures for managing concerns around allegations are followed effectively. This means that children's welfare is not always fully protected, as potential risks may not be identified or addressed promptly.
- Staff complete a thorough induction, including training about the camp's premises, health and safety, and how to run activities. This helps them to understand what is expected in their role when they begin working at the club. However, leaders do not consistently check that staff maintain current skills and knowledge, such as through regular supervision sessions. This means that staff are unable to carry out their roles and responsibilities effectively at all times.
- Children are extremely focused and engaged throughout the day. They concentrate fully during activities, such as dancing, art and ball games. Children receive choices about what to do, which helps them to follow their interests and feel a sense of independence. This encourages children to explore and build

confidence when trying new challenges.

- Staff manage children's behaviour well. They use simple strategies, such as children passing a puppet to show whose turn it is to speak. Staff praise children for following rules and routines. As a result, children respond positively to expectations and help to maintain a calm and orderly environment.
- There is a good key-person system in place. Staff know children's needs and adapt activities so all children can take part fully. They use strategies, such as sensory tools and extra rest breaks, to help children to engage confidently. Staff work closely with parents to provide tailored support. As a result, children feel included, supported and secure. They enjoy their time at the camp.
- Children have lots of opportunities to develop their creativity. They make puppets and enjoy creating stories with them. Staff introduce new language, such as 'comedy' and 'tragedy,' which builds children's vocabularies and deepens children's understanding of ideas. Staff encourage children to experiment with different art materials and techniques and talk about what they have made. This helps children to think creatively and develop their imaginations.
- Staff promote healthy habits. They encourage children to drink water and keep hydrated. Staff also remind children to use sunscreen and wear hats outdoors. Children wash their hands under staff's supervision after being outside and before meals. These routines help children to stay comfortable and develop habits that support their long-term well-being.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

There is not an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
implement risk assessments effectively at all times	12/09/2025
ensure that staff and leaders have a secure knowledge and understanding of safeguarding procedures, including how to respond effectively when allegations are made	12/09/2025

improve supervision arrangements to make sure that staff have appropriate knowledge, skills and understanding to fulfil their roles and responsibilities.	12/09/2025
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Setting details

Unique reference number	EY331030
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	10416324
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	220
Number of children on roll	156
Name of registered person	Young World Leisure Group Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900856
Telephone number	01480 467 567
Date of previous inspection	12 August 2021

Information about this early years setting

Barracudas (Croydon) is one of 47 provisions run by Young World Leisure Group Ltd. It registered in 2006 and operates from Trinity School in Croydon, Surrey. The camp is open during the Easter and summer holidays, Monday to Friday, from 8am until 6pm. There are 40 members of staff who work with children, four of whom are qualified teachers.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jenny Selvakumaran

Inspection activities

- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about the provider.
- The area manager and manager took the inspector on a tour of the premises and discussed how they ensure that they are safe and suitable.
- The inspector observed children's daily routines and activities, and their interactions with staff.
- Discussions and meetings were held with the manager, staff and senior leaders during the inspection.
- Children talked to the inspector about their interests and activities.
- A sample of documentation was viewed during the inspection, including evidence of staff's suitability and first-aid certificates.
- Parents shared their views of the care that their children receive at the camp.

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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