

# KIDS Orchard Centre

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY358367
<b>Inspection date</b>	11 August 2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Esther Gray
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<b>Registered person</b>	KIDS
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Out of School care

## ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

### The key inspection judgements and what they mean

*Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality*

*Good: this aspect of the provision is strong*

*Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound*

*Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough*

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk).

## THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

KIDS Orchard Centre has been re-registered since 2007 and is a registered charity operating under the governance of a board of trustees. KIDS is a national charity that has been in existence for over 30 years and was previously registered at this address over the past five years. The core business of the charity is to offer care for children with special needs, offering family support and respite care, as well as training and advice. The needs of parents drive the type of support offered by each group. At this location it caters for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

It is situated on the outskirts of Stourbridge. A maximum of 15 children may attend the setting at any one time. They open each weekday from 09:00 to 15.00 during school holidays. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area. The setting has use of a main hall, a sensory room and a quiet room. They receive support from the team for children with disabilities and the early years team of the local authority.

Most of the staff are qualified and the deputy coordinator is supernumerary. Many of the staff have experience of working on the play scheme in the past. The play scheme employs 40 members of staff. Of these, half hold appropriate early years qualifications and many are working

towards a qualification. There are currently 80 children aged from five to under eight years on roll, who come from a wide catchment area.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is outstanding.

Children are very well supported in their independent attention to their own personal care needs. Staff make hygiene a high priority, using a wide range of effective strategies to communicate with children to ensure they understand the importance of maintaining good hygiene standards. For example, the doors to toilet areas are marked in pictorial symbols and staff can carry 'PEC's', which is a 'picture exchange communication' system, to support children with disability and/or learning difficulty. This ensures that children are able to begin to protect themselves from infection as staff use the system to remind children of the need to wash their hands well. Staff undertake training at the start of each series of out of school events to ensure that there will always be a trained member of staff available to attend to any medical emergency. Excellent documentation and storage systems ensure safety and security for children when administering prescribed medication. All appropriate permissions from parents and carers are diligently obtained to safeguard them.

Children are well nourished. They learn about the importance of healthy eating through such stimulating topics as 'world food' and other imaginative activities, which give rise to resourceful, well-planned conversation about healthy food choices, instigated by staff. They enjoy picnics when out and about on a large number of very well-planned trips, where they enjoy many opportunities to experience fresh air and exercise, using large and small apparatus. The facilities are assessed to ensure they meet children's ability and decisions are made as to their suitability for their use before the trip is made. This helps to ensure children enjoy nutritious food, fresh air, exercise and begin to understand how good food and exercise helps them to stay healthy.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is outstanding.

Children are well protected from harm. Staff have an excellent induction to ensure they are fully aware of the needs of the children in their care and an understanding of their role in child protection. They are able to put appropriate procedures into practice. They are secure and very well supervised in premises which are suitable for the purpose. This is because the staff ensure that the environment gives children excellent access to a comprehensive range of facilities that successfully promotes children's development and well-being.

The registered person takes positive steps to promote safety. This is demonstrated in the diligent manner in which staff undertake comprehensive risk assessments. Children's safety is meticulously promoted and is checked on a regular basis by the deputy, to ensure every step is taken to minimise all identified risks to children. This includes, indoors, outside and outings. The deputy's role as supernumerary provides additional support to staff, ensuring that children's safety and security is paramount. Outings are well planned and the indoor spaces are carefully arranged to ensure maximum benefit to the children. No undue risk from low-level obstacles such as coat pegs or unnecessary sharp corners from cupboards, which might hinder children's free movement around the setting, are left to chance. This means children can move with confidence around all areas of the setting. Children are learning to keep themselves safe as

they are reminded not to climb and to move safely around other children so that they do not hurt themselves or others.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is outstanding.

Children are developing well in confidence, independence and self-esteem. They are welcomed into the setting, greeted by their familiar adult, key person, who immediately allows them to find where they want to play or what they want to play with as independently as possible. They are quick to reassure those who are less confident. Staff develop a very good rapport with children in their care and develop extremely close links with parents and carers to achieve a very successful bond, which allows children to settle quickly and make the most of the holiday scheme and the interesting and exciting activities on offer. Care plans are carefully monitored to ensure staff are fully aware of, and can easily access information about, the children they care for. This ensures all care and medical needs are well met in accordance with parents, carers and/or medical professional instructions.

Children are developing a significant range of knowledge and skills because there are effective plans, which provide activities and play opportunities to meet children's individual needs and ensure that they flourish. Children are skilfully challenged to socialise well and achieve in activities provided. They make trips out of the setting nearly every day and children look out for the arrival of the coach with eager anticipation. Staff know when to step back and allow children to explore resources alone and when to re-engage with children to help develop the play further, developing skills in language, speaking and listening at every opportunity. Children develop intricate story lines in imaginative role play, for instance, when using a computer. For example, using their own experiences, they develop their ideas of how a police dog-handler submits a report to a senior. Pressing the submit button with dramatic conviction they are excited to demonstrate that the senior will read it. This means children develop language and communication skills and a further understanding and an appreciation of the wider world, as in this example, in the role of police officer.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

Very good, detailed information is gathered about each child's individual needs to ensure that their learning difficulty and disability may be catered for. Every effort is made to ensure a good match is found from within the staff team for their one-to-one key person for the period of care on the holiday scheme. Some workers come back year-in and year-out. They meet up with some of the same children, providing very good continuity of care and they find pleasure at seeing the progress children make. They form very good relationships with the children and their families. As a result, children's needs are well met through the development of a very good partnership with parents and carers. Excellent arrangements are made to ensure all children are included. There are areas for quiet play and areas of sensory exploratory play, as well as busy areas outside and indoors to suit all children of differing ability and need.

Children are able to feel a good sense of belonging, work harmoniously with others and make some choices and decisions. They are learning to share space, toys and resources well, taking turns at using the computer or soft play areas for example. Staff are able to manage a wide range of children's behaviour and the strategies used depend very much on the individual understanding and development of the children present. As a result, they are developing good

self-esteem and respect for others. Parents are kept very well informed and provide all necessary permissions to allow staff to provide the best possible care for children. However, although there is a complaints procedure made available to parents they are not informed through this procedure about the role of Ofsted, which means they cannot readily further their concerns with the regulator if they are not happy with the provider's response. Nevertheless, children are developing good, consistent relationships with adults and other children in a setting where staff work closely with parents and carers to meet individual children's needs and ensure they are fully included in the life of the setting.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

The management and organisation of the setting is proactive in ensuring the practice of all staff contributes positively to children's good health, safety, enjoyment, achievement and ability to take an active part in the setting. However, Ofsted are unable to determine the suitability of the person in charge of the day-to-day running of the setting, as they are not regularly on the premises and were not available during this inspection. This means, the person in charge is not readily available to provide support to children, parents and staff during the operation of the holiday scheme.

Children benefit from good organisation of the setting. Children are very well cared for in a setting where deputy and staff are committed to continue to update their skills and knowledge by attending training and having a clear sense of purpose and a commitment to continual improvement. They regularly assess the triumphs, successes and events that did not go so well, to ensure they make improvements, as they develop excellence in their practice in the care of children with learning difficulty and/or disability. Children are protected from harm as the staff are aware of the importance of ensuring that all unvetted visitors are suitable and are not left unattended with children in the setting or whilst on outings. Most policies and procedures protect children well and are effectively implemented to promote good and in some areas outstanding outcomes for children. Records are available and retained for inspection. They are well organised and kept confidential. Overall children's needs are met.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

Not applicable.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.

Since registration there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards.

## THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

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### WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

#### The quality and standards of the care

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- ensure the written complaints procedure, made available to parents, includes the address and telephone number of the regulator
- ensure that staff, children and parents are well supported by the presence of the manager/person in charge on a regular basis.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education* (HMI ref no 2599) which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)