



## Riddins Mound Childcare Centre

Inspection report for early years provision

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| <b>Unique Reference Number</b> | 255175   |
| <b>Inspection date</b>         | 24 January 2006  |
| <b>Inspector</b>               | Jayne Lesley Taylor  |
| <b>Setting Address</b>         | Training & Enterprise Centre, Applewood Grove, Cradley Heath, West Midlands, B64 6EW |
| <b>Telephone number</b>        | 01384 567 162  |
| <b>E-mail</b>                  |  |
| <b>Registered person</b>       | Sandwell Adventure Play Association  |
| <b>Type of inspection</b>      | Childcare  |
| <b>Type of care</b>            | Sessional care, 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?

Riddins Mound Child Care Centre opened in 2004 and operates from two converted rooms on the ground floor of a low rise block of flats in Cradley Heath. The Child Care Centre is open each weekday from 09.00 to 12.00 all year round. A maximum of 16 children attend the Pre-school at any one time and a maximum of 40 children attend the Play Centre and Out of School Club which also run's on the site throughout the year. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

Children come from the local catchment area. The Child Care Centre supports

children with special educational needs, and children who speak English as an additional language.

The Child Care Centre employs seven staff. All of the staff, including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

Children stay healthy and understand the importance of good personal hygiene through well established daily routines, they know that they need to wash their hands before eating, after using the toilet and after playing outside. The spread of infection is minimised because the staff ensure that procedures and routines are consistently applied, resulting in children's health needs being effectively met. However children's health is compromised because there is not currently consent in place for children to receive emergency medical treatment.

Children enjoy a range of nutritious snacks and are able to have drinks as they wish throughout the session. Staff monitor what they drink and encourage them so that they do not become thirsty, this ensures that children are hydrated at all times. Snack times are a sociable occasion where all children sit together. Their individual dietary needs are well met as these are discussed with parents and information about cultural and individual needs are recorded.

Children enjoy exercise and benefit from fresh air through regular opportunities for outdoor play. Their individual needs are met because they have opportunities to rest and relax as they wish throughout the session.

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

The provision is good.

Children are welcomed into a safe, child friendly environment that is well organised to meet their needs; they move safely from activity to activity without disrupting each other. Their arrival and departure is monitored by staff to ensure that they know when children are present and when they have left. Children are able to independently and safely help themselves to toys and equipment that is stored at their height in a range of suitable containers, this helps to create a stimulating, learning environment. They use a range of furniture and equipment suitable to their ages, stages of development and levels of ability. Resources and equipment are checked daily by staff and are removed if they are faulty, this ensures that everything is safe for its use and that children's safety is ensured.

Children's safety is well maintained because staff are proactive in ensuring that they are safe and secure in their care. The staff monitor where children are and what they are doing at all times, ensuring that they are under their direct supervision both inside and outdoors. Children are learning about the importance of keeping themselves safe

through discussion and practice. A full range of safety measures are in place to ensure children's safety.

Children's welfare is well protected because the staff have an understanding of child protection issues and procedures, they understand their roles and responsibilities regarding protecting children in their care.

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

The provision is good.

Children enjoy themselves at the child care centre and are well occupied during the time that they attend. They receive a high level of support and guidance, have confident relationships with the staff and approach them freely making their needs known. Children are involved in decision making about what they would like to do and what they need to do it. Children's confidence and self-esteem is boosted because staff praise and encourage them. Children confidently initiate their own play and are at ease with the staff when they need help and support.

Children play well together and eagerly participate in activities that support their development. They are able to extend their play opportunities due to encouragement from the staff, who take into account children's different levels of ability. Children participate at a level that they are comfortable with, which boosts their confidence.

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

The provision is good.

Children are encouraged to have a positive attitude about themselves and others, which is supported and nurtured by the staff caring for them. There is a good balance of trust between the children and the staff which fosters children's self esteem and develops their confidence. Children respond well to each other, they share and take turns and join in each others play. Through a range of experiences children are learning about differences in other lifestyles and cultures. The staff are proactive in including and welcoming children with special educational needs and disabilities, ensuring that they can access and participate in all activities and experiences offered. The children benefit from having caring staff who respond to their individual needs.

Children's behaviour is good and they are praised and acknowledged by the staff, who act as good role models and treat the children with respect. They are made aware of behaviour boundaries, play well together and have an understanding of what is expected of them. Children are encouraged to take responsibility for their own behaviour, are beginning to have an understanding of right and wrong and will apologise to each other.

Children's individual requirements and needs are identified and well met because the staff have a commitment to working alongside parents. Good communication ensures that staff are fully aware of parents' wishes on a day to day basis, which enhances

their care of the children.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children benefit from being cared for by staff who are qualified and experienced in childcare, have been vetted and have a good knowledge and understanding of child development and play needs. The staff work well as a team and are clear about their individual responsibilities. Children's safety and well-being is well maintained at all times.

Documentation which contributes to children's health, safety and well-being is in place. Children's records are well maintained and detailed information ensures that the staff can promote the health and well-being of the children in their care. Overall the provision meets the needs of the children attending.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection the provider was asked take advice from the Environmental Health department regarding arrangements for children's' toileting. This has been accomplished and arrangements fully meet the needs of the children attending.

## **Complaints since the last inspection**

There are no complaints to report 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.

## **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 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):

- obtain written parental consent for children to receive emergency medical treatment.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)