



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 255260

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 20/08/2004
Inspector Name Zaida Parveen

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Wallace Close Playcentre
Setting Address Darley House
Wallace Close
Oldbury
West Midlands

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Sandwell Adventure Play Association

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Sandwell Adventure Play Association
Address 2 Market Street
Oldbury
West Midlands
B69 4DH

ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality and standard of day care. When making judgements, inspectors have regard to how well the provider meets the National Standards for under Eights Day Care and Childminding. A list of these is attached. The report identifies strengths and areas for improvement.

This inspection report must be made available to all parents.

Information about the setting

Wallace Close Playcentre as been registered since 1989. The Play centre operates from the ground floor of Darley House flats in Oldbury area in the West Midlands, in Sandwell Borough. The group do not have access to a suitable outdoor play area.

The play centre serves the local community.

An open access policy is in operation.

The Play centre is registered under Sandwell Adventure Play Association (SAPA) to provide care for 16 children, aged 5-8 years. The Provision accommodates children up to the age of 14 years.

The Play centre opens 5 days a week. During school term time, sessions are from 15.15 until 18.00; School holiday session times are from 11.00 until 14.00.

Two permanent qualified staff, work directly with the children and hold relevant Child Care Qualifications.

How good is the Day Care?

Wallace Close Playcentre provides good care for the children.

The out of school provision is well organised and procedures for recruitment and selection are clear. The environment is warm and welcoming, safe and organised to meet the child's and parents needs. An open access scheme is provided, however child's arrival and departure times are not recorded. Children can move around the room freely choosing activities of their choice. They have access to a range of toys and resources that are made easily available. However resources reflecting positive images of culture, ethnicity, gender and disability are limited. Most policies, procedures and documentation are fully maintained and stored securely.

Staff give good attention to safety issues and arrangements are regularly reviewed and recorded. Staff organise outings involving various outdoor activities. Snacks and drinks are available through out the day. All staff are aware of the children's dietary needs and parental wishes are respected. Staff are aware of the Procedures for child protection, however these are not shared with parents.

All children are treated with equal concern and their individual needs are met appropriately. Interaction between staff and children is good and staff involve themselves in children's games and offer assistance, talk and listen to the children. Staff manage children's behaviour consistently and in line with the written policy, children are encouraged to take responsibility of their own behaviour and are involved in devising own rules. These are displayed and children reinforce the rules positively. The children are also involved in the evaluation of the out of school and staff welcome their ideas.

Staff work well with parents maintaining a professional approach.

Parents are kept informed through daily conversations verbal or over the telephone, notice boards and newsletters

What has improved since the last inspection?

All actions have been addressed from the previous inspection, however the attendance register does not show times of arrival and departure.

Policies are now in place.

The children have a suitable variety of activities.

Risk assessments are now in place.

What is being done well?

- Children are cared for in a welcoming, child friendly, safe environment where children have choice of activities.
- Space is well organised and children are able to move freely.
- Staff show a good understanding of children's individual needs and all are treated with equal concern. Staff organise outdoor activities giving children a wider experience.
- Good relationships with staff, children and their peers are formed, staff meet children individual needs. There is a range of toys and equipment for children which are stimulating and interesting. Children are able to self-select toys and ask for more if not out.
- Regular risk assessments are carried out on the premises both inside and are recorded.
- There are good procedures for behaviour management and health & safety.
- Children are involved in evaluations and devising policy with the staff.
- There is good partnership with parents, who are kept informed verbally on a daily basis.

What needs to be improved?

- accuracy of the fire drill records
- times of arrival and departure
- sharing of information relating to child protection procedures
- the resources that promote positive images of culture, ethnicity, gender and disability.

Outcome of the inspection

Good

CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION

All registered persons must comply with all conditions of registration included on his/her certificate of registration.

As a result of this inspection conditions of registration have been imposed / varied / removed and a new certificate of registration will be issued.

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?**The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection**

Std	Recommendation
2	Ensure children arrival and departure times are recorded.
6	Ensure to record number of children and staff present when carrying out fire drills.
9	Ensure the resources promote positive images of culture, ethnicity, gender and disability.
13	Ensure that Child protection Procedures are shared with parents during admission period.

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL STANDARDS

STANDARD 1 - SUITABLE PERSON

Adults providing day care, looking after children or having unsupervised access to them are suitable to do so.

STANDARD 2 - ORGANISATION

The registered person meets required adult: child ratios, ensures that training and qualifications requirements are met and organises space and resources to meet the children's needs effectively.

STANDARD 3 - CARE, LEARNING AND PLAY

The registered person meets children's individual needs and promotes their welfare. They plan and provide activities and play opportunities to develop children's emotional, physical, social and intellectual capabilities.

STANDARD 4 - PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The premises are safe, secure and suitable for their purpose. They provide adequate space in an appropriate location, are welcoming to children and offer access to the necessary facilities for a range of activities which promote their development.

STANDARD 5 - EQUIPMENT

Furniture, equipment and toys are provided which are appropriate for their purpose and help to create an accessible and stimulating environment. They are of suitable design and condition, well maintained and conform to safety standards.

STANDARD 6 - SAFETY

The registered person takes positive steps to promote safety within the setting and on outings and ensures proper precautions are taken to prevent accidents.

STANDARD 7 - HEALTH

The registered person promotes the good health of children and takes positive steps to prevent the spread of infection and appropriate measures when they are ill.

STANDARD 8 - FOOD AND DRINK

Children are provided with regular drinks and food in adequate quantities for their needs. Food and drink is properly prepared, nutritious and complies with dietary and religious requirements.

STANDARD 9 - EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The registered person and staff actively promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice for all children.

STANDARD 10 - SPECIAL NEEDS (INCLUDING SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES)

The registered person is aware that some children may have special needs and is

proactive in ensuring that appropriate action can be taken when such a child is identified or admitted to the provision. Steps are taken to promote the welfare and development of the child within the setting in partnership with the parents and other relevant parties.

STANDARD 11 - BEHAVIOUR

Adults caring for children in the provision are able to manage a wide range of children's behaviour in a way which promotes their welfare and development.

STANDARD 12 - WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS AND CARERS

The registered person and staff work in partnership with parents and to meet the needs of the children, both individually and as a group. Information is shared.

STANDARD 13 - CHILD PROTECTION

The registered person complies with local child protection procedures approved by the Area Child Protection Committee and ensures that all adults working and looking after children in the provision are able to put the procedures into practice.

STANDARD 14 - DOCUMENTATION

Records, policies and procedures which are required for the efficient and safe management of the provision, or to promote the welfare, care and learning of children are maintained. Records about individual children are shared with the child's parent.