



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 255175

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 19/08/2003
Inspector Name Susan Rogers

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care, Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Riddins Mound Childcare Centre
Setting Address Training & Enterprise Centre
Applewood Grove
Cradley Heath
West Midlands

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of 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

Riddins Mound Pre-School, Out Of School Club, Play Centre and Play Scheme, opened in 1995. It operates from four purpose built care rooms, which are on the ground floor of a low rise block of flats. There are four play rooms used by the setting, children's toilets, an outdoor area and use of the local playground which has a soft fall surface. The child care centre serves the local area of Old Hill, in Cradley Heath.

There are currently 40 children from 2 to 5 years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs and who speak English as an additional language.

The sessions are from 08:00 to 18:00 for the out of school care, from 13:00 to 17:00 for the play centre, and from 09:00 to 12:00 for the pre-school group. The setting offers care from 15:00 to 18:00 during the school term.

Six part and full time staff work with the children. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. Two staff are currently working towards a recognised early years qualification.

The setting receives support from the registered body S.A.P.A. Sandwell Adventure Playground Association.

How good is the Day Care?

Riddins Mound Child Care Centre offers good quality child care for children.

The sessions are well organised, with effective use made of the space available within the centre and the local park. The premises are safe, secure and well suited to the needs of the children. There are effective procedures in place for children who attend sessions on an open access basis.

Hygiene practices are mostly effective, however the setting plans to take advice regarding the practice of pre-school children being potty trained in the care rooms during the play sessions.

All staff have regular training on all child care issues, and have a good awareness of Health and Safety procedures. Staff present as positive role models and actively

encourage good behaviour, resulting in children who are well behaved. Staff support activities that are child led, and ensure that children are actively involved in the decision making process.

There is a wide range of equipment available, contributing towards a variety of well suited play activities.

There is an effective exchange of information between parents, children and staff. Staff talk to parents and ensure that they are kept well informed, regarding activities and all aspects of the care of their child. Policies and procedures are well presented and are available to parents and carers

Provision for children with special needs is good. Staff are well informed of the individual care needs of each child and ensure that activities meet these needs.

What has improved since the last inspection?

This is the first inspection.

What is being done well?

- Organisation is effective, with good use made of the resources and space available. Despite the fact that three different groups can be using the setting at the same time, their individual needs are met, through creative use of the space, staffing and resources available.
- There is a wide range of equipment and toys available for the children, play is predominantly child led and staff support children's play through well planned and interesting activities.
- Children behave well, this is encouraged by staff who are effective role models. Children are well supported and helped in negotiating through their conflicts with other children.

What needs to be improved?

- the complaints procedure, ensuring that parents are aware that they may contact OFSTED if they wish;
- hygiene practice in relation to the use of potties in the play room.

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
7	take advice from the Environmental Health department in respect of the use of potties in the main play room.

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.