



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 255253

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 15/06/2004  
Inspector Name Sharon Veronica Yorke

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care, Sessional Day Care  
Setting Name Lion Farm Playcentre  
Setting Address 2 Arley Close  
Oldbury  
West Midlands  
B69 1EA

### 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

Lion Farm Play Centre - Sandwell Adventure Play Association (SAPA) opened in 1974. It operates from a two storey building on the Lion Farm Estate, which SAPA have sole use. Lion Farm Playcentre provides three services; a pre-school playgroup, open access Playcentre and an out of school club. There is a separate entrance for the out of school care provision which is located on the first floor, and a separate entrance for the open access Playcentre, from which the play group also operates at separate times. Both ground floor and first floor areas have a large play room, toilets, kitchen and the use of adjacent fields. The provisions serve the local communities.

There are currently thirty-two children aged from 2 1/2 to 8 years on roll. The centre is not in receipt of funding for three and four year olds. The centre support a number of children with special needs.

All facilities are open Monday to Friday. The playgroup is open 1.00pm to 2.45pm term time only. The out of school club is open 2.30pm to 6.00pm term time and 8.00am to 6.00pm during school holidays. The Playcentre open access service is open 3.15pm to 6.00pm term time and 12.00pm to 3.00 pm during school holidays.

There are five staff that work with children, all of whom hold level 3 child care qualifications and hold current first aid certificates.

### How good is the Day Care?

Lion Farm Playcentre provides good quality care for children.

Staff create a welcoming environment for children. Space and resources are organized effectively to meet children's needs. Staff provide an interesting and stimulating balance of activities, allowing for active play and creative activities both in and outdoors. Toys are maintained in good condition and promote children's overall development. Up to date records and most written policies are maintained satisfactorily which are mostly securely stored.

Staff take many positive steps to promote safety within the Club. Staff act in the children's best interests should they become ill. Staff treat children with equal concern and take account of their individual needs. Children are provided with snacks and drinks that comply with parents specified wishes. Staff are aware of their

statutory responsibilities for protecting children in their care, and share this with parents.

Staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They plan activities appropriate to children's stage of development, ensuring their individual needs are met. There is however restricted opportunity for children access to toys/resources that develop positive attitudes towards diversity. Good behaviour is valued and children are encouraged to share and take turns. Methods for dealing with challenging behaviour are sensitive, age appropriate and take into account children's level of understanding and maturity.

Staff actively develop good relationships with parents. Parents are made welcome by staff and information is shared about children on a daily basis.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

Not applicable, as there were no actions raised at the previous inspection.

#### **What is being done well?**

- The interaction with the children is good. Children have the opportunity to be involved in a wide range of activities. Staff effectively plan activities and play with children to extend the learning through play. Staff understand the children well and ensure that their individual needs are met.
- The children have access to a wide range of toys and activities and they play well together.
- Staff plan activities well taking account of children's special needs. Arrangements are in place to adapt activities, so that children benefit integrated service provision.
- Behaviour management is discussed with parents. Good behaviours are positively reinforced through praise, encouragement and good manners. Children respond well when being asked to share and take turns.
- Staff promote good relationships with parents. Parents receive an information brochure detailing the service provided to children. Information is shared daily with parents and the club have an open door policy.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- the daily attendance registers
- the policies on lost and uncollected children
- the emergency evacuation procedures and recording
- the availability of resources that positively promote diversity
- the parents complaints procedure
- the storage of records.

**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	Improve daily attendance register to include times children depart the premises.
2	Ensure policy on lost and uncollected children is included in staff manual.
6	Improve written emergency evacuation procedures and recording, taking account of any recommendations made by the Fire Safety Officer.
9	Increase range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice.
12	Improve complaints procedure, so that it includes contact details of Ofsted Early Years.
14	Ensure that records are stored securely so as to maintain confidentiality.

## **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.*