



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 149119

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 15/12/2003  
Inspector Name Jane Mount

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care  
Setting Name Adeyfield Adventure Playground  
Setting Address Turners Hill  
Adeyfield  
Hemel Hempstead  
Hertfordshire

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Dacorum Borough Council

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Dacorum Borough Council  
Address Civic Centre, Marlowes  
Hemel Hempstead  
Hertfordshire  
HP1 1HH

## 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

Adeyfield Adventure Playground is an open access scheme for children aged 6-12 years. It is one of four adventure playgrounds run in the Hemel Hempstead area by Dacorum Borough Council and is managed by Jean Martin Robinson. Children that attend mainly come from Adeyfield, Highfield and the surrounding areas.

The premises consist of a single storey building with a games and activity room, an art and craft room, a kitchen and toilets. There is also an office and storage facilities. The outside area is fully enclosed and includes grassed and hard surface areas, various climbing structures and a wooded play area.

The Adventure Playground is open term time between 15:30 and 18:30, Monday to Friday and it is open at week-ends. On Saturdays between 10:00 and 17:00 and Sundays between 13:00 and 17:00. During the school holidays it is open from 08:30 until 18:30, Monday to Friday.

The premises are suitable for children and adults with disabilities. There is access to indoor and outdoor play areas and includes disabled toilet facilities.

### How good is the Day Care?

Adeyfield Adventure Playground provides good quality care for children.

The staff work in partnership with parents to meet the individual needs of the children and information is shared. A welcoming, friendly environment is provided giving the children opportunity to mix freely, working independently or in groups of varying sizes. There is a relaxed atmosphere with a familiar routine and structure which provides security, while still encouraging risk taking and increasing independence and control. The children are welcomed on arrival and staff are responsive and communicate well with them.

Space is organised in a safe, child friendly manner allowing the children access to a range of activities and play opportunities, some of which are planned. However, this could be further developed to include an area for quiet reflection where the children can relax, take part in more quieter activities and could also include more table activities and resources to promote equal opportunities.

Good behaviour is valued and encouraged. The staff are positive role models for the children and have strategies for dealing with any negative behaviour. The dietary

needs of the children are met well with special dietary requirements being clearly recorded and shared with all staff.

Records, policies and procedures are maintained and the organisation of documentation is generally good. Staff development is acknowledged with training prioritised and staff have the necessary skills and experience to do their jobs effectively.

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

At the last inspection there were no timed actions or conditions to complete.

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

- All staff carry out their roles and responsibilities well and know what is expected of them. They are keen to develop their skills. (Standard 2)
- The children's play is supported well by staff with a play environment appropriate to the ages and abilities of the children that attend the scheme. The children are sometimes involved in the planning of activities. They are listened to and their individual interests are catered for. (Standard 3)
- The food is nutritious and the children can choose from a flexible, varied menu which complies with dietary and religious requirements of individual children. (Standard 8)
- Good behaviour is acknowledged with prizes being given to 'The child that contributes most' and 'The most improved' etc. Any persistent worrying behaviour is discussed with parents. (Standard 11)
- A welcoming environment is provided for children and their parents. Staff encourage a two way flow of information with parents and they work in close partnership whenever possible. (Standard 12)

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

- the organisation of space to allow for more relaxing activities (Standard 2)
- the range of resources to include games, puzzles and books and resources to reflect culture and disability (Standard 5)
- obtaining the government publication relating to child protection. (Standard 13)

#### **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                                                                                                                               |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4   | Ensure space is organised to allow an area for more quieter activities to take place.                                                        |
| 5   | Ensure toys and play materials promote equal opportunities particularly to reflect culture and disability.                                   |
| 5   | Ensure there is a balanced range of activities which includes sufficient games, puzzles and books.                                           |
| 13  | Ensure government booklet 'What to do if you're worried a child is being abused' is obtained and all staff are familiar with the guidelines. |

## **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.*