

INSPECTION RECORD SHEET

Inspector's Names: *****

Place / Activity Inspected: Saltway Centre (MPR) - Acorns

Date: 27th February 2016

Staff

Treat everyone equally



Listen to young people



Firm but fun



Friendly



Polite



Encouraging



Helpful



Our Thoughts:

The staff were very engaged with the young people, we saw them using lots of positive praise throughout the session, for example, "good listening" and "good waiting".

It felt like there were definite rules and boundaries set, staff would correct poor behaviour but they were fair and consistent with everyone in the group. We felt like the staff were constantly looking out for the safety of the young people but also wanted to make sure the young people were having a good time.

The staff kept checking in with the young people to make sure that they were okay, they encouraged young people to take part in the activities BUT it did not feel like they were forcing the young people to do something that they did not want to do, the young people had a choice.

Recommendation - Perhaps it would be good to have a visual poster displayed with words and pictures showing what the group rules are so that everyone (including visitors and parents) know what behaviours are expected from everyone.

Score out of 35 = 31

Fun

Fun activities



Everyone is welcome



Everyone is happy



No bullying



Everyone is joining in



Our Thoughts:

We loved the mix of the activities available and we thought that they were accessible for all (including those in wheelchairs), however even though the soft play is great for small children the opportunities for soft play sessions for older children (say over 8 years old) is not really an option at Saltway as the room is too small.

During this inspection we saw no evidence that the young people were not happy, they were laughing and smiling and joining in with the activities.

We saw no incidents of bullying all the children seemed to get on well together and any poor behaviour was dealt with quickly (and appropriately) by staff.

During the inspection a new boy came (for his first session) – he was very reluctant to join in and stayed with his mum, the staff did not pressurise him to join in and left him to watch what the other children were doing – within 30 minutes he was on the computer with a staff member and mum left the room.

Recommendations – Might be good to have anti-bullying posters displayed – we are making one with primary schools but could adapt this for groups such as acorns.

Portable soft play mats and equipment so that older young people could still benefit from soft play experience.

Score out of 25 = 22

Accessible

Good Accessibility

(ramps, wide doors, lifts, on one level)



½

Good clear signs



Everyone can take part



Transport for everyone



Car park close by



Good opening hours



Cost



No score given

Our Thoughts:

The centre itself is in a very strange location down the bottom of a residential housing estate and the sign on the main road that points you in the direction of the centre is very small and is easy to miss.

The building itself is large and confusing and the internal signage is not very clear as to where you need to go for things and what the rooms are for.

The session is 4 hours long and this gives families an excellent 'short break' and the children get a good amount of time to try all the activities and to do something away from their families with their friends. We think there should be more sessions available but we appreciate there is only so much funding and it's better to have a quality service as it is rather than trying to make changes that might make the service not so good.

We liked the fact that the staff used pecs to show the children what activity they were moving onto next.

Recommendations – Better road signage to help you find the building

Clear visual signage especially for rooms that children and young people have access to, for example, soft play and sensory room

Score out of 30 = 25 ½

Safety and Surroundings

Everything works



Lots of space to move around



Safe activities



Our Thoughts:

Everything worked.

The outside space is amazing and the equipment on offer is brilliant – we especially liked the Go-Karts and the children seemed to love these as well.

All activities were well supervised.

Score out of 15 = 14

Overall Comments

All the staff were really welcoming to us and very helpful throughout the inspection.

All the children in the group, throughout the time we were at Saltway appeared to be really enjoying the activities on offer to them.

We thought that the choice of different activity zones was brilliant and we really like that the children were encouraged to try the activities BUT it did not feel like they were being made to do something they did not want to do.