

Independently Run Children's Centre awarded GOOD Ofsted!!

Islington Play Association's (IPA) Children's Centre in Paradise Park has been recognised by Ofsted for its outstanding work with families and its approach to equality and diversity.

The centre has been rated as Good overall, with two features being recognised as of outstanding quality. The nursery based at the centre was also rated as good in Feb 2011.

Paradise Park Children's Centre is special in being run by IPA, a local independent charity managed by a voluntary committee with over 40 years experience of working in Islington to improve children's lives and life chances.

Paradise Park offers a rainbow of services to support children's start in life from antenatal classes and midwives to a nursery and family support. Helping parents to bond with their children in playful ways. It has an amazing outdoor adventure play area and a welcoming community cafe set in a well used park.

The Director of IPA, Anita Grant said: *"IPA is very proud that our play focussed approach to running services for families in this very deprived area has been recognised by Ofsted and we will use their helpful comments to build our plans for the future."*

Some quotes from the Ofsted report published January 2012:

"Paradise Park is a vibrant and welcoming centre which exploits its unique location in a park, to place itself at the heart of its community. The centre's community café and its outdoor play areas are highly valued by families."

"'I always walk out feeling ten times better than when I walked in,' was the view from one parent which reflects the views of many."

"'The centre turned my life around,' was the comment from one parent which demonstrates the positive impact of the centre on the lives of families."

