

# Regional OSCAR Awards 2006

## Programme Award Winner

*Over 50 Children*



## KAS Care

### How many children attend your programme?

Up to 70 children daily.

### How many staff do you have?

10

### Give a brief description of a typical day at your OSCAR programme?

Team members arrive early to start preparation for the day. The room is set up for various activities, and a large afternoon tea is prepared. There are 5 schools we have children attending from. The children from the closest School are collected in the school grounds and walked down a short lane to our premises which are soccer clubrooms on a large soccer park. The children from the other schools are supervised onto transport; bus or taxi, and arrive at the park just after 3pm. The children attending from the local Intermediate are given more responsibility and independence and walk down on their own (short distance of one block). These intermediate children have their own area with couches, tv and are able to make their own afternoon tea, whether it be toast or sandwiches, etc. Once all the other children from all schools arrive we tinkle a triangle to indicate afternoon tea, which we have outside. The children eat together as a big group, which is where we do notices and news, and any events (ie birthdays, family occasions, etc). After afternoon tea children can go and play or involve themselves in the daily project. There is always a craft project to do each day. Play involves, cricket, t-ball, soccer, skipping, pater tennis, woodwork, and water play with waterguns and water zoom slide. Inside resources are many, lego, brats dolls, dress ups, construction sets, cards, board games, colouring, and much more. The staff start homework at 4pm and clean up starts at 4.45pm. At 5pm all children who are left join together with the staff and play a group game until we close at 5.30pm.



### Why do children love coming to your programme?

"I like going to K.A.S. Care because I like making things to take home." From Maggie

"I like coming here because I can play on a big field and afternoon tea is always ready as soon as I get here." From Taine.

"I like making my own toast and making jewellery". From Nicole.

"Mostly I like the waterslide and end of term parties, but playing sports on the field is good too." From Mickey.

"I like making new friends from other schools, and playing with the older kids." From Sophie.

### Why should your programme become The OSCAR Foundation National Award winner?

Karen and Julie started KAS Care in 1999 with a typical mothers philosophy of running a centre with a warm, safe motherly atmosphere that was fun for all children to be a part of.

They would bring their own children's crayons and toys to the centre, leaving nothing in their homes for their own children to play with. Play time for them would from then on be at KAS Care.

Now, with the enormous help from the Ministry of Social Development, K.A.S. Care have been lucky enough to receive wonderful grants which go a long way to resourcing the centre. Many families who have come to us from other districts or overseas, are amazed at how many good quality and variety of resources we have for their children.

Not many people have the natural skills or ability to involve themselves and interact with children easily. However we search for staff who possess these qualities. All of the team members enjoy their jobs, have a passion for playing and having fun, and above all love the children, these qualities make it easy for the children to have more fun. You will always see team members outside playing tag, or soccer, or joining in with a skipping game or whatever. The children love having the staff play with them, they love it more when they can't swing on the monkey bars as well as them, and look ridiculous trying!!

We try very hard to improve all aspects of our programme, for example, we believe it is important that each child is met by a team member, within the school grounds daily before they leave for the centre. This reassures the children and guarantees that all children have been collected. To enable this, we place extra staff on duty to provide this type of service that no one else does in our area.

K.A.S. Care is a very popular after school centre, of which all our staff and children are proud to be part of.

