



# Salisbury District Hospital Playscheme

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	146005
<b>Inspection date</b>	27 July 2005
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<b>Registered person</b>	Salisbury Hospital Holiday Playscheme
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Out of School care

## ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

### The key inspection judgements and what they mean

*Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality*

*Good: this aspect of the provision is strong*

*Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound*

*Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough*

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk).

## THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Salisbury District Hospital Playscheme was registered in 1999. It operates from three rooms in the staff club of Salisbury District Hospital. There is access to cloakrooms and an outdoor play area. The scheme opens five days a week during school holidays. Sessions are from 07.00 until 18.00. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The playscheme serves parents who work for Salisbury Health Care NHS Trust, South Wiltshire Primary Care Trust and Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Care Partnership.

The playscheme is registered to care for a total of 66 children at any one time. There

are currently 250 children on roll from the age of 4 years to 14 years. The playscheme supports children with special needs.

The playscheme employs 12 part-time staff, 8 of the staff have play work qualifications. The playscheme has completed the Aiming High Quality Assurance Scheme.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children learn about the importance of good health and hygiene through positive measures. They are reminded to wash their hands after using the toilet and all children wash their hands before eating. They have been visited by the infection control nurse who discussed germs and infection with them. Children's hygiene needs are met through regular cleaning of resources and equipment.

Children are protected from cross infection through positive measures such as excluding children that are unwell. Children's health needs are met appropriately. For instance, parents give written consent for staff to administer emergency medical treatment such as an epipen. Children's first aid needs are met well. Two staff have full first aid training and all staff do paediatric life support training.

Children with dietary needs have their needs met appropriately. Staff research the contents of foodstuffs to ensure that they are suitable for all children to eat. Children have easy access to healthy drinks. They can help themselves to water from a dispenser at any time. Children bring lunchboxes. Parents are asked to pack appropriate foods since the lunchboxes cannot be refrigerated. However, they are not advised about healthy packed lunch options. Children do not receive sufficiently healthy snacks. They buy sweets, crisps and biscuits from a tuck shop and are not offered healthy alternatives. Children get plenty of exercise which helps them to stay fit. They have swimming twice a week and there are regular opportunities every day for physical play including tennis and football.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are kept safe through positive measures such as recording which children have gone outside to play. Careful planning ensures that there are sufficient staff working directly with children at all times. This is particularly evident when organising outdoor play activities. Children are supervised sufficiently at all times. The rooms used by the playscheme are not fully secure since the building is shared with other users. Children's safety is ensured through the vigilance of the staff. They are also protected by regular risk assessments and safety checks on resources and equipment.

Children have a good awareness of safety issues. They are aware that they are not

to retrieve balls that go outside the tennis courts due to the nearby road. They contribute to their own safety by remembering to write their name on the whiteboard if they are going upstairs. They are protected from fire through measures such as having fire evacuation procedures. However, fire drills are not carried out frequently which means that some children may not take part in one. Children's safety in case of an emergency is compromised by the incomplete procedures for establishing which children are not in the building. At present these details are recorded on a whiteboard which is inaccessible if the building is evacuated.

Children's welfare is promoted through the playscheme's detailed child protection procedures. Parents are informed of the staff's duty to refer any child protection concerns to social services. Staff have guidelines to follow in the event of concerns about a child. However, not all staff are aware of the possible indicators of child abuse.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a wide variety of exciting activities that cater for all interests. Plenty of resources are set out for children to choose from and, they can also access other activities by themselves or on request. Activities include: construction sets; arts and crafts; computer games; small world play; books; puzzles; games and a variety of physical activities including tennis and football. Children enjoy regular outings to destinations such as Monkey World and also swim twice a week. They benefit from unusual additional activities such as celebrating Peruvian National Day and working with the Art Care Project to produce artwork for display in the hospital. They have previously made a short animated film which has been shown on the hospital TV channel.

Children are confident and have good self-esteem. They confidently approach adults and chat to the inspector. Their self-esteem is boosted by praise and encouragement from staff. For example, a child shows a member of staff her drawing and is told that it is "gorgeous". Children are very enthusiastic and keenly rush to begin activities following registration. They are interested in what they are doing and enjoy attending. They use their initiative in selecting activities and resources. Several children, for instance, decide to use material to make a roof for a den in the quiet area. Children form good relationships with one another. They enjoy playing together with resources such as playdough and dressing up clothes. They also have friendly relationships with staff who offer them good levels of support. Staff provide assistance and encouragement but ensure that activities are child led.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

Children are well behaved. They have a clear understanding of the rules such as not swearing and not bullying. They have opportunities to discuss and contribute to the ground rules. They are able to share and take turns. For instance, children take turns

at popular activities such as computer games. Staff act as good role models using please and thank you when speaking to the children and reminding them of rules. For instance a member of staff reminds children that "we don't run in here do we?" Children receive praise and acknowledgement for behaving well. Children have a good sense of belonging which is fostered by measures such as displaying their work. They play well with one another and form good friendships. They are able to choose what they want to do and staff offer them good support without interfering in what they are doing. For example, a member of staff sets up the table for painting but then stands back to let the children paint by themselves.

Children are learning about the wider community. They have frequent opportunities to use resources that reflect positive images of culture, gender and ethnicity. These include items such as dolls, CD's of world music and multicultural cookery and craft books. All children are included in activities and their individual needs and interests are recognised and met well. Children with special needs are cared for effectively. Children's needs are fully discussed with the parents to ensure that staff can provide appropriate care. One to one support is provided where appropriate to fully meet the children's needs. Parents are kept well informed of the child's welfare.

Children benefit from a good relationship between staff and parents. Parents receive good quality information about the playscheme which includes relevant policies and procedures. Parents are greeted personally on arrival and there is a good exchange of information between themselves and staff. This includes details such as asking staff to encourage children to drink more water.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from a well organised environment. There is plenty of space which is arranged effectively to allow older children to have their own base. The rooms are set up to provide separate areas for different types of activities. For example, there is a quiet area with cushions and comics. The environment is made welcoming through displays of the children's work. Children are able to access resources easily. For instance, art and craft materials are stored effectively in low storage units that allow children to help themselves.

Children's welfare is promoted through the keeping of all necessary records, policies and procedures which are shared with parents. The day to day running of the playscheme is effective. Staff are deployed appropriately and activities are planned to ensure a broad range of experiences. Staff are checked to ensure their suitability to work with children and over half have relevant play work qualifications. However, staff do not receive a full induction process which leads to gaps in their knowledge.

Overall the provision meets the needs of the range of children cared for.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection the playscheme was required to keep an attendance register

showing all those present, including adults. It was also required to develop an action plan of how minimum staffing qualifications would be met. It was required to develop sickness and child protection procedures and to develop staff's understanding of child protection issues.

The playscheme now has an effective registration system that accurately records the times of arrival and departure of children and staff. Good progress has been made in meeting minimum staffing qualifications, 8 out of 12 staff now have a relevant play work qualification.

Sickness and child protection procedures have both been developed effectively. Parents are now made aware that sick children should not attend the playscheme. The child protection statement now includes information about the procedures to follow in the event of an allegation of abuse against a member of staff.

Limited progress has been made in developing the staff's understanding of child protection issues. There are inconsistencies in staff's knowledge of the possible indicators of abuse.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

There are no complaints to report.

## **THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE**

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### **WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?**

#### **The quality and standards of the care**

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- ensure that children have a choice of healthy snacks
- ensure children's safety by carrying out regular fire drills and developing a method of recording where all children are in case of an emergency.
- ensure that staff undergo a full induction process which includes the possible indicators of child abuse.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and*

*concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website:  
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