

# Tops Day Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

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**Unique reference number** 509660  
**Inspection date** 16/10/2008  
**Inspector** Lorraine Sparey / Samantha Powis

**Setting address** Royal Bournemouth Hospital, Castle Lane East,  
Bournemouth, Dorset, BH7 7DW  
**Telephone number** 01202 300688  
**Email** info.rbh@topsdaynurseries.co.uk  
**Type of setting** Childcare on non-domestic premises

## Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

## Description of the setting

Tops Day Nursery at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital has been registered since March 2000. It is part of a chain of nurseries operating throughout the south region. It operates from nine rooms, in a two storey, purpose built unit within the grounds of the hospital close to Bournemouth and Christchurch. Accessible toilet facilities are available on the ground floor. The nursery serves hospital staff, the local area and beyond. There is a secure area for outdoor play.

The group is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. A maximum of 124 children may attend at any one time. There are currently 187 children on roll. Of these, 113 are in the early years age group, and 29 are in receipt of funding for early education. Children aged over eight years also attend the after school and holiday play scheme provision when it is operating.

The setting supports children with learning difficulties and/ or disabilities, and children for whom English is an additional language.

The nursery opens five days a week, all year round. Children can attend from 06:45 to 18:30. There is before and after school club. It offers sessions from 06:45 to 08:30, and 15:00 to 18:30 and a holiday playscheme running during the school holiday from 06:45 to 18:30. At the time of the inspection, the out of school facilities were not in operation.

The setting employs 29 staff who work directly with the children. Of these, 21 staff hold early years qualifications, and eight staff are on training programmes. The setting liaises with other providers and schools.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The setting does not meet the individual welfare needs of all children. Everyday practices do not always ensure that children's health and safety is promoted. Children engage in a generally appropriate range of activities. However, at times, these are not well presented and lack sufficient challenge for all children to enable them to make good progress in their learning and development. Monitoring systems are in place, however these have been ineffective in ensuring that all areas for development are identified and acted upon to improve the facility for children.

Overall, the early years provision requires significant improvement. The registered person is given a Notice to Improve that sets out actions to be carried out.

## What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To comply with the requirements of the EYFS the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

- maintain an accurate record of children's attendance detailing arrival and departure times (Documentation) 24/10/2008
- implement effective procedures to maintain and promote children's health with particular regard to cleaning routines, cross infection and storage of food items (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 31/10/2008
- develop the systems for assessing risks to ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to minimise hazards to children (Suitable premises, environment and equipment). 31/10/2008

To improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- increase the range of activities for all children to ensure they are sufficiently challenged, interested and encouraged to take the next steps in their learning
- develop strategies to ensure children's behaviour is managed consistently.

## **The leadership and management of the early years provision**

Children are not adequately safeguarded as procedures are not followed by staff, or monitored effectively by management, to ensure that the environment is clean and safe at all times. Some floor areas within the baby room and rooms used by younger children are not clean, and at times hazardous items, such as, small pieces of plastic and dried pasta are left on the floor within their reach. Some toys and equipment are not kept clean to ensure children's health is fully supported. Babies' bottles and food are stored in the fridge, however, some are not labelled, which means that staff cannot ensure they are given to the correct child. The majority of staff have first aid training and first aid kits are positioned throughout the nursery, however, sometimes the resources needed to deal with minor accidents are not readily available. For example, staff have to search other areas of the nursery to locate a cold compress to apply to a child who has bumped their head. The setting have a sick child policy, which is adhered to in practice to prevent children passing on infectious illnesses, however, this is not always followed when staff are unwell, increasing the risk of cross infection. Clear emergency evacuation procedures are in place, however, there is no accurate record maintained of the times of children's attendance, to promote children's safety in the event of an emergency. Secure systems are followed when appointing staff and induction procedures and on-going training ensure that they have a clear knowledge of the setting's policies regarding child protection, which helps to promote children's safety in the event of a concern. With the exception of the daily register, records are suitably maintained to help support children's welfare.

The setting's ability to monitor and evaluate its own practice is inconsistent. For example, management sometimes identify areas for improvement, such as the insufficient range of activities available for the youngest children, but are not always pro-active in addressing the issues to improve outcomes. They have been successful in addressing one of the recommendations raised at the last inspection,

which has led to children having an increased understanding of healthy eating and hand washing routines, which helps them to learn about healthy lifestyles. The other recommendation, relating to older children's involvement in activities, has not been fully addressed. As a result, children are not always provided with a sufficient range of well organised activities to enable them to become fully engaged.

Staff maintain ongoing communication with parents which helps meet children's welfare needs. Parents are supplied with suitable information about the provision through news letters and a notice board. This includes the weekly planning of activities and also information about the Early Years Foundation Stage. Staff make themselves available to parents as children arrive and are collected, to discuss children's wellbeing. Regular meetings between key persons and parents promote consistency in the child's care, learning and development. Parents along with staff, are involved in the 'ABCD Awards', recognising and valuing staff's personal contribution to children's well-being, promoting a positive environment for all.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision**

Younger children benefit from being supported by a familiar adult who understands and respects their daily routines, this helps them to feel secure. Their learning and development is supported as they are offered an adequate range of activities and experiences throughout the day. They use their hands and senses to explore the porridge oats in the sensory tray, enjoying the feel of them as they are poured over their hands. They join in enthusiastically with singing times with some beginning to develop the confidence to join in with familiar actions. They enjoy the outdoor areas using the range of resources, such as the slide, climbing frame and trampoline. At times there are insufficient activities available to actively engage all the children, and their ability to benefit fully from the planned activities is inhibited by a lack of age appropriate resources. For example, one-year-olds are given fine pencils when colouring as staff identify that they do not have any thick crayons available.

Older children are offered a generally appropriate range of activities to reflect their interests and abilities. For example staff organise a themed 'Pirate Day' to support and develop children's interest in role play. However, on occasions staff do not provide a sufficient range of activities to encourage children to make choices and sustain their interest. Children are encouraged to choose what they would like to do, but sometimes, basic selections cannot be offered as the appropriate resources are not available. For example, when children identify that they would like to use play dough, staff are unable to locate any dough within the nursery. Children are offered oats to play with as an alternative, but the limited quantities available leads to disputes between them. Activities are not sufficiently well organised, which hampers children's ability to learn new skills and develop their understanding through use of the materials.

Children participate enthusiastically with telling one of their favourite stories about "The Bear Hunt". They join in with the familiar story lines and act out parts of the story such as squelching through the mud. This demonstrates their increasing

awareness and understanding of language. A well resourced role play area, including mark making materials, is accessible to the children. At times, children do not fully understand basic expectations regarding their behaviour as staff are inconsistent in their approach. At times, older children show a lack of respect for the resources they use, their environment and each other. For example, children deliberately drop food items onto the floor and stamp on them, showing little regard as to the effect this will have on their play area. The outside area is used frequently to develop and extend children's physical skills and also their awareness of the natural world. Children explain how they plant seeds and water them so they grow. Older children enjoy opportunities to go on outings to engage with people from the local community. They participate in celebrating harvest festival at a local rest home, providing an enjoyable experience for both the children and the elderly residents.

Staff complete observations and assessments. However, some of the children's records are not updated frequently to give an accurate account of their progress in all areas of learning. Identified key persons demonstrate a knowledge of children's individual needs and interests and try to use this information when supporting them.

Due to the insecure procedures regarding health and safety, children's ongoing well-being is not effectively promoted. They learn some practices which help them to develop an understanding of healthy lifestyles, and are provided with nutritious snacks and meals throughout the day. They take part in practising the evacuation procedures, which helps them to become familiar. However, poor routines followed by staff compromise children's ongoing welfare. For example, the poor storage of food items for babies.

## Annex A: record of inspection judgements

### The key inspection judgements and what they mean

*Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality*

*Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong*

*Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound*

*Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough*

### Overall effectiveness

<b>How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	4
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	4

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	4
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	4
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	3
How well are children safeguarded?	4

### Quality and standards

<b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>	3
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	4
How well are children helped to stay safe?	4
How well are children helped to be healthy?	4
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	3
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	3
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	3

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

## **Annex B: the Childcare Register**

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are: Met

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met



## **Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted**

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

### **Detail of the complaint/s**

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.