



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY263786

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 16/12/2003
Inspector Name Jacqueline, Ann Connell

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Tops Day Nurseries
Setting Address Royal Hampshire County Hospital
Romsey Road
Winchester
Hampshire
SO22 5DG

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Tops Day Nurseries 3528133

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Tops Day Nurseries
Address Unit 11
Central Business Park, Southcote Road
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH1 3SJ

ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality and standard of day care. When making judgements, inspectors have regard to how well the provider meets the National Standards for under Eights Day Care and Childminding. A list of these is attached. The report identifies strengths and areas for improvement.

This inspection report must be made available to all parents.

Information about the setting

Tops Day Nursery opened in January 2003. It is part of the Tops Day Nursery chain. It is registered to care for 61 children under five years.

It operates from a purpose built, two storey building, in the grounds of the Royal Hampshire County Hospital. The nursery provides care for the children of health care staff. Where possible, the staff try to accommodate the needs of parents who work shifts.

There are currently 57 children on roll. This includes 17 funded children. The nursery supports children who have special needs and those who speak English as an additional language.

It operates from Monday to Friday, with the exception of bank holidays, throughout the year. It is open between 6:45 and 18:30.

There are thirteen members of staff and, of these, ten have an early years qualification. The nursery is committed to on-going staff training. It receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYCDP)

How good is the Day Care?

Tops Day Nursery, Winchester, provides good care.

The nursery has a very professional management structure and the leader is very aware of her responsibilities. It has a strong team of enthusiastic and committed staff who provide a warm and friendly environment for the children. The staff organise the space in the nursery so that there is a separate area for each age group but they also offer opportunities for the children to mix with a wider age range. They provide an extensive range of toys and equipment.

The staff are aware of potential hazards and have very good procedures in place to ensure the children are safe. They actively promote high standards of hygiene through, for instance, cleaning the baby and toddler toys each week, and encourage the children to develop good personal hygiene practice. They are very aware of the individual dietary needs of the children and ensure each child is given a suitable diet.

They provide the children with an extensive range of activities which are stimulating and well planned in order to encourage the children's development and learning in

all areas. They are very aware of the needs of the individual children and ensure that each child feels valued and included. The nursery has a positive attitude towards caring for children with special needs and works closely with other professionals to encourage the children's development. The staff value and praise good behaviour. They have very good procedures for behaviour management.

They build good relationships with parents and aim to offer flexible hours in order to meet parental needs. They give them information about the nursery and most of the procedures.

The nursery keeps all the required documentation although the system for completing the daily attendance record is not always reliable. Information about the children is clearly recorded and stored securely so that confidentiality is maintained.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- The nursery has a warm and vibrant atmosphere. The walls are brightly decorated with colourful posters and displays of the children's work. Parents and children receive a friendly welcome and there are display boards to inform parents about the staff and planned activities.
- Staff know the children well and make regular observations which are used in the individual planning for each child. They talk to the children and ask them open questions which encourages the development of their communication skills.
- The staff provide a very wide and balanced range of toys and equipment. These are stimulating and challenging and meet the needs of all the ages and stages of development of the children in the nursery. The children are able to access the toys easily and enjoy playing with them.
- The staff are vigilant about the children's safety at all times and have very good procedures in place to ensure the children are kept safe. These include daily checks of the outside play area, regular risk assessments and well planned measures to ensure the premises are kept secure.
- The staff value good behaviour and praise the children when they show kindness or are helpful. They manage inappropriate behaviour in a calm manner which is sensitive to the age and level of understanding of the children.
- The nursery builds good relationships with parents and has excellent procedures in place to keep parents informed of their child's daily routine and development. In addition to daily verbal feedback, which is given to all parents, the staff provide a written daily diary for the parents of babies and a parents' evening once a term.

What needs to be improved?

- the system for completing the daily attendance record so that it is accurately maintained
- the information given to parents so they are aware of the nursery policies.

Outcome of the inspection

Good

CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION

All registered persons must comply with all conditions of registration included on his/her certificate of registration.

As a result of this inspection conditions of registration have been imposed / varied / removed and a new certificate of registration will be issued.

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?**The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection**

Std	Recommendation
2	ensure the registration system records accurately when children are present.
12	ensure details of the policies and procedures are easily accessible to parents.

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL STANDARDS

STANDARD 1 - SUITABLE PERSON

Adults providing day care, looking after children or having unsupervised access to them are suitable to do so.

STANDARD 2 - ORGANISATION

The registered person meets required adult: child ratios, ensures that training and qualifications requirements are met and organises space and resources to meet the children's needs effectively.

STANDARD 3 - CARE, LEARNING AND PLAY

The registered person meets children's individual needs and promotes their welfare. They plan and provide activities and play opportunities to develop children's emotional, physical, social and intellectual capabilities.

STANDARD 4 - PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The premises are safe, secure and suitable for their purpose. They provide adequate space in an appropriate location, are welcoming to children and offer access to the necessary facilities for a range of activities which promote their development.

STANDARD 5 - EQUIPMENT

Furniture, equipment and toys are provided which are appropriate for their purpose and help to create an accessible and stimulating environment. They are of suitable design and condition, well maintained and conform to safety standards.

STANDARD 6 - SAFETY

The registered person takes positive steps to promote safety within the setting and on outings and ensures proper precautions are taken to prevent accidents.

STANDARD 7 - HEALTH

The registered person promotes the good health of children and takes positive steps to prevent the spread of infection and appropriate measures when they are ill.

STANDARD 8 - FOOD AND DRINK

Children are provided with regular drinks and food in adequate quantities for their needs. Food and drink is properly prepared, nutritious and complies with dietary and religious requirements.

STANDARD 9 - EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The registered person and staff actively promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice for all children.

STANDARD 10 - SPECIAL NEEDS (INCLUDING SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES)

The registered person is aware that some children may have special needs and is

proactive in ensuring that appropriate action can be taken when such a child is identified or admitted to the provision. Steps are taken to promote the welfare and development of the child within the setting in partnership with the parents and other relevant parties.

STANDARD 11 - BEHAVIOUR

Adults caring for children in the provision are able to manage a wide range of children's behaviour in a way which promotes their welfare and development.

STANDARD 12 - WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS AND CARERS

The registered person and staff work in partnership with parents and to meet the needs of the children, both individually and as a group. Information is shared.

STANDARD 13 - CHILD PROTECTION

The registered person complies with local child protection procedures approved by the Area Child Protection Committee and ensures that all adults working and looking after children in the provision are able to put the procedures into practice.

STANDARD 14 - DOCUMENTATION

Records, policies and procedures which are required for the efficient and safe management of the provision, or to promote the welfare, care and learning of children are maintained. Records about individual children are shared with the child's parent.