



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 100570

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 16/01/2004
Inspector Name Margaret Jean Moore

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care, Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Hampden Nursery Centre
Setting Address 80 Polygon Road
London
NW1 1HQ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Camden Council

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Camden Council
Address Camden Local Education Authority
Crowndale Centre
218-220 Eversholt St
London
NW1 1BD

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

Hampden Nursery is part of Camden Local Authority Early Years Sector Education Dept.

It is sited in the Somers Town area and serves the community South of

Camden. The nursery is situated on two floors; the ground and lower ground floor. The ground floor has two group rooms for children aged 0 to 3 years. The lower ground floor houses two nursery classes for children aged 3 to 5 years. All rooms have access to outside play area that is equipped with large play equipment, soft landing and garden area.

There are currently 63 children on role. Children attend a variety of sessions between 08:00hrs to 18:00hrs. This includes 2 x full day nursery groups, 2 x core term-time nursery classes operating from 09:30 to 15:30 hrs, a holiday playscheme and wrap-around service before and after school for nursery class children, which is also accessed by children from neighbouring schools; Edith Neville, St. Mary's and St. Aloysius.

The setting supports children with special needs and who speak English as an additional language. There are 48 funded children attending.

The nursery opens five days a week for 48 weeks a year. Twenty-two members of staff work directly with the children. Over half the staff have early years qualifications and the rest of the staff are working towards a recognised early years qualification. The nursery gains support and advice from the EYDCP Intervention Team.

How good is the Day Care?

The Hampden Nursery provides good care for children aged 0-8 years.

The premises are warm and welcoming and maintained to a suitable standard. The well-established core staff team have access to ongoing training to support their childcare skills and professional development. They are deployed appropriately to meet ratios and ensure that consistent care is provided. The setting offers a variety of services to meet the needs of children in the local community. Good documentation supports this, however, the operational plan is not fully up to date.

The premises are secure, and safety requirements are met. Staff are informed of

Health & Safety requirements at their induction, risk assessments are regularly updated, staff identify potential hazards and are expected to take action to minimize any risks.

Arrangements for food and drink are good; the cook is qualified and experienced and the kitchens are hygienic with suitable storage. Information about children's cultural/medical dietary needs is recorded and easy to find. Children have access to water and other drinks.

Staff plan stimulating play opportunities which relate well to the wide range of learning and developmental needs of the children. Challenging activities are provided in each room. There is an excellent system for monitoring children's progress; staff use observations of children to identify needs and inform planning. The nursery's policy of inclusion encourages the children to respect each other and ensures all the children have access to the equipment and toys. Children are given plenty of opportunities to enjoy themselves and increase their confidence in the easily-accessible outdoor area.

There are good systems in place to support partnership with parents. These include key-worker visit to child's home prior to starting, regular information sharing ,and a good "parent group" that meets regularly and works closely with the staff.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Good deployment of staff to meet the needs of the children; staff were available to them without being intrusive. The nursery has an established and well-organised staff team who receive ongoing training from various sources and from the Intervention Team who specifically work with children and staff in managing children's behaviour and support for children who has English as an Alternative Language.
- Curriculum planning is well-organised to provide children with a range of play opportunities relating to their learning and developmental needs. Staff plan the activities based on a good knowledge of the children in their care and what they enjoy. There is good detailed "Profiles" written on each child, that is shared with the parents
- Activities encourage children to make choices and engage in stimulating play in a secure environment. A balance of play things, books and natural materials are available.
- Behaviour is well managed with staff using positive methods to engage children's attention and reward them with frequent praise.
- There are strong links with parents, a written daily diary is kept on all the children under 3 years, to inform the parents of their child's day. There is a well established toy library for the benefit of the parents and children. The

active parents group; help fund raise for outings and resources, who work closely with staff for the smooth running of the nursery.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

Records kept on each child are of exceptionally high quality. They are well presented in attractive books and contain sufficient and appropriate written information to give the reader a detailed profile of each child's individual needs and developmental progress. They contain carefully arranged samples of children's work and are updated and shared regularly with parents. Their importance is recognised through special time being allocated for their completion, and review discussions during staff supervision meetings.

What needs to be improved?

- Review of the the operational plan to reorganise and update contents.

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 operational plan is reorganised and updated.

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.