



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 107440

DfES Number: 583403

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 04/11/2004
Inspector Name Janet Marie Thouless

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Guys Hospital Staff Day Nursery
Setting Address Henrietta Raphael House
St. Thomas Street
Borough
London
SE1 9RT

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Guys & St Thomas Hospital NHS Trust

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Guys & St Thomas Hospital NHS Trust
Address St. Thomas Street
London
SE1 9RT

ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public that the nursery education for funded three and four year old children is of an acceptable quality. Inspection of nursery education also identifies strengths and weaknesses so that providers can improve the quality of educational provision and help children to achieve the early learning goals (elgs) by the end of the Foundation Stage. This inspection report must be made available to all parents.

If the setting has been inspected previously, an action plan will have been drawn up to tackle issues identified. This inspection, therefore, must also assess what progress has been made in the implementation of this plan.

Information about the setting

Guys Hospital Staff Day Nursery is run by the Guys & St Thomas' Hospital NHS Trust. The nursery provides day care for the children of staff employed by the Trust. It is open weekdays, 07:00 - 19:00.

The Nursery is registered for 42 children under 5 years. There is support available for children with special educational needs. Currently there are 38 children on roll, which includes 5 funded 3 year olds and 1 funded 4 year old. One funded child has English as an additional language and no funded children have special educational needs

The nursery is located in Henrietta Raphael House, which is adjacent to the main hospital. There are 4 separate group rooms, this includes a baby room, tweenie room, toddler room and a separate early years room for three to four year olds.

There is a staff team of 14, including the manager and a deputy. Twelve staff have Early Years Qualifications. There is a key worker system in place to support and monitor the progress of each child. Staff receive support from Southwark Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

INSPECTION OF THE NURSERY EDUCATION PROVISION FOR FUNDED THREE AND FOUR YEAR OLDS.

How effective is the nursery education?

Guys Hospital Staff Day Nursery provides high quality nursery education. Children are making very good progress towards the early learning goals in all the areas of learning.

The quality of teaching is very good. Staff use their knowledge and experience to support children's learning effectively. They have good understanding of how children learn through the stepping stones within the foundation stage. They create an environment where children feel safe, included and are stimulated to learn.

Staff skilfully engage children in conversations, asking questions, which encourage children to recall events and to think. Visits locally and trips to places of interest extend children's knowledge, such as a recent trip to the fire station. Children are given very good choices in creative activities, and they are well supported by the staff to use resources imaginatively. Children have good opportunities to initiate role play, which is used very well to promote their skills and learning. Scribbling for a purpose is well planned for with children independently taking opportunities to write.

Individual assessments of children's progress inform curriculum planning, but although children's progress is regularly assessed, plans do not fully include the next step for children's learning.

The leadership and management are very good. Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the provision ensures that the manager and the staff are very aware of the strengths and any area for improvement. They are committed to ongoing improvement and to maintaining high standards. Regular training ensures that staff build on their strengths and this has a positive impact on children's progress throughout the nursery.

Partnership with parents is very good. Staff develop good relationships with parents, providing written information on the curriculum and events within the nursery. Parents are well informed about their child's progress through ongoing discussions and meetings with the staff.

What is being done well?

- Staff develop positive relationships with children and are calm and polite in their manner. They encourage children to be polite, considerate and respect and value each other. Good behaviour is praised and valued. Staff provide good role models for the children.
- The well established staff team demonstrate enthusiasm and commitment to the children in their care and the children demonstrate increasing confidence and make consistent progress in the six areas as a result.

- Staff offer effective support to children's learning through a range of well planned and interesting activities, which gives children choice and independence. Skilful intervention and questioning extends children's knowledge and understanding.
- Children's skills and learning are promoted very effectively through role play.
- Effective leadership and management of the nursery ensures ongoing improvement through monitoring and evaluation of the provision and providing opportunities for staff participate in training that builds on their strengths.
- Parents are encouraged to share what they know about their child and they are kept well informed of their child's progress.

What needs to be improved?

- the recording of children's assessments to fully include the next steps in children's learning.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Good progress has been made in addressing the key issues from the last inspection. Effective forms and meetings have been developed so parents are able to share what they know about their children's learning and experiences at home.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are confident in expressing their needs, ideas and views. They share home experiences and special occasions with staff. They relate very well to each other and adults. They behave well and show increasing initiative in choosing and using equipment independently. As a result the children enjoy and benefit from learning through self motivated play. They interact well, showing respect for and learning about others differences.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children are very confident speakers. They use language to express their thoughts and ideas. They take turns in conversations and respond well to questions. They demonstrate a fondness for books and increasingly understand text. Children enjoy sounding out letters in their name and writing and reading familiar words. There are many opportunities for children to scribe for a purpose, including in role play and text and symbols are used effectively to help them identify resources.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

The majority of children are able to say and use numbers 1-10, with older children counting beyond. They confidently counted the number of spots on dominoes pieces and enjoy participating in number rhymes and games. Lots of positional language is used in role play and children are beginning to understand the concept of addition and subtraction. They show developing understanding of volume and capacity in water and sand play.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children observe and investigate through activities such as planting and growing. They explore natural materials like leaves. They have many opportunities to make models using recycled materials. They enjoy finding out about their environment through local visits and trips to places of interest. They are developing a sense of time through daily routines and themed projects. Children are beginning to understand the uses of information technology through using a computer and programmable toys.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children have regular opportunities to move their bodies in an imaginative and controlled way and to extend their ability by climbing, crawling and manoeuvring wheeled resources. Trips are planned for children to visit local park to further develop gross motor skills. The children use a range of large and small tools, successfully to support tasks. They demonstrate an increasing knowledge of how to be healthy and look after their bodies.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children have good opportunities to explore colour, shape, space, texture and form in two and three dimensions. They have opportunities to paint pictures using a wide range of colours and textured paints. They have many good opportunities to use their imagination in role play and take part in regular movement and music session and have access to puppets and dressing up clothes.

Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately.

OUTCOME OF THE INSPECTION

The provision is acceptable and is of high quality. Children are making very good progress towards the early learning goals. The next inspection will take place in three to four years time.

WHAT THE SETTING NEEDS TO DO NEXT

There are no significant weaknesses to report, but considerations should be given to improving the following:

- There are no significant weakness to report, but consideration should be given to improving the following.
- Extend assessments to fully include the next steps of children's learning in all six areas.

The provider must draw up an action plan within 40 working days of receipt of this report showing how the key issues detailed above will be addressed. The action plan must be made available to all parents and to the Local Authority if required. An evaluation of the action taken will form part of the next inspection of funded nursery education.