



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY260961

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	08/12/2003
Inspector Name	Sonjia Nicholson

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Amersham Hospital Day Nursery
Setting Address	Amersham Hospital, Whielden Street Amersham Buckinghamshire HP7 0JD

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Buckinghamshire Hospitals NHS Trust
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Buckinghamshire Hospitals NHS Trust
Address	Amersham Hospital, Whielden Street Amersham Buckinghamshire HP7 0JD

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

Amersham Hospital Day Nursery opened over 20 years ago. It operates from purpose built premises situated within the grounds of Amersham General Hospital in Old Amersham. The nursery primarily serves children whose parents are employed by South Buckinghamshire NHS Trust but a number of places are available to children living in the local area.

There are currently 73 children from three months to five years on roll. This includes four funded four year olds. Children attend a variety of sessions. The nursery currently supports a number of children with special needs and who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 07.15 to 17.30 throughout the year, except Bank Holidays and staff training days.

Twenty-six staff work with the children, the majority of whom hold early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. The nursery receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Amersham Hospital Day Nursery provides good quality care for children. The welcoming, well-maintained premises are organised with due regard for children's health and safety; staff place a strong emphasis on ensuring children are safe and supervised at all times, but opportunities to practice the evacuation plan are limited. Good use is made of space, resources and equipment to give children a stimulating range of activities and experiences.

Staff interact enthusiastically in all aspects of children's care and work co-operatively to ensure children's needs are met; this is less apparent within the Lower End of the nursery at lunchtime. Staff know the children in their care well and encourage all areas of their development through the established daily routine; particular attention is given to teaching social skills and fostering children's confidence and independence through sensitive adult involvement. Children's behaviour is managed effectively throughout the nursery.

Parents value the care provided. They have the opportunity to liaise with staff at any time about the care their child receives; written information is also shared with

parents of younger children at the end of each day. Senior Management have a democratic style of leadership supported by a set of detailed policies and procedures covering all area of the service offered. These are available to parents and known and implemented by staff on a daily basis. Most relevant documentation is in place; it is recorded accurately and stored confidentially.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Staff interact freely in all aspects of children's care, learning and play; they develop good relationships with children, enjoy their company and know them well. Children respond well to the clear boundaries for behaviour in place and have a good understanding of what is expected of them. Children are happy and settled.
- Staff actively promote children's good health and hygiene; they follow a range of procedures designed to prevent the spread of infection, particularly during nappy changes. Staff encourage children to adopt good personal hygiene habits through the daily routine. As a result children know when and why they must wash their hands and cover their mouths when coughing. Staff encourage children's confidence and independence, particularly at mealtimes when using cutlery.
- The nursery offers children and parents a warm, welcoming environment. Children's play rooms are bright and inviting with a range of children's artwork on display. Toilet and nappy changing facilities ensure children's comfort, hygiene and privacy are maintained at all times. Children enjoy physical play and activities in the fully enclosed garden or spacious playrooms on a daily basis. Staff make good use of the local environment to provide children with first hand experiences such as nature walks and visiting the mobile library.
- Staff establish good relationships with parents; they liaise on a daily basis about children's welfare and development and operate an 'open house' policy whereby parents can speak to a member of staff at any time. Parents of babies and toddlers have access to written information about the care their child receives.
- Staff work well together. They have a clear understanding of the range of written policies and procedures in place and implement them into their daily practice. Senior management offer strong leadership and opportunities for staff to meet regularly; they encourage staff autonomy within the play rooms.

What needs to be improved?

- frequency of fire drills, to ensure all staff and children are aware of the procedure

- deployment of staff in the Lower End of the nursery at lunchtimes, to ensure all children's needs are fully met
- documentation, to ensure written parental consent is obtained prior to administering medication.

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
3	Ensure staff in the Lower End of the nursery are deployed effectively at lunchtime to ensure all children's needs continue to be met.
7	Obtain prior written permission from parents before administering any medication to children.

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.