

Willows Day Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	139935
Inspection date	24/02/2011
Inspector	Linsay Fareden

Setting address	Sutton General Hospital, Cotswold Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM2 5NF
Telephone number	020 8296 4333
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Type of setting	Childcare - Non-Domestic

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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 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.

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Description of the setting

Willows Nursery is one of two nurseries run by Epsom and St Helier NHS Trust. It opened in 2000 and is situated in the grounds of Sutton Hospital. The setting provides day care primarily for children of NHS staff. A maximum of 48 children may attend the nursery and a maximum of 24 children may attend the play-scheme at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.00am to 5.45pm for 52 weeks of the year. The play-scheme is open from 08.00 to 17.45 during school holidays. The provision operates from a building with five play rooms, the play centre annex is nearby. Children share access to two secure and enclosed outdoor play areas.

The nursery is registered on the Early Years Register and the childcare and voluntary register. The nursery is registered to care for a maximum of 72 children on the early years register at any one time. There are currently 55 children on roll aged from six months to four years. Children receive funding for early education. Children attending the play-scheme are aged from five to twelve years. The nursery supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and currently support children who speak English as an additional language.

There are 10 permanent members of staff working with the children. All hold appropriate early years qualifications and three are working towards a qualification.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

Children make good progress in their learning and development and their care needs are met through effective routines and organisation of the setting. All children are valued as individuals and the staff ensure they are safe and secure at all times. Good links with parents keep them informed about their child's care and progress. Although staff do not currently liaise with other settings which children attend, this is an area they would like to develop. The manager is keen to work further with staff in continuing to develop the service to further promote outcomes for children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- further develop the systems for self-evaluation
- further develop the evaluation of the role play areas to promote children's imaginative play
- develop partnerships with other settings which children attend to enhance children's continuity of care and learning

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are cared for in safe and secure environment. Through risk assessments of the indoor and outdoor spaces is effective in promoting children's safety. Robust recruitment systems ensure children are cared for by staff who are suitable to work with them. There strict procedures in place to ensure staff are unable to use mobile phones, whilst working with the children. All staff have attended safeguarding training and have a sound knowledge child protection issues and of procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare and safety. The required documentation is in place and comprehensive policies are used to promote children's welfare and safety, which are reviewed annually. All staff have childcare qualification and are well deployed, enabling children to have good levels of support and supervision as they play. A self-assessment has been started to identify the quality of the provision and areas for development.

Children value and respect peoples differences through the celebrations of festivals and regularly access resources which reflect positive images of diversity. Children enjoy participating in fund raising for equipment in the nursery and for those less fortunate than themselves. Children behave well and are helped to share and show respect to each other.

The staff make the nursery is welcoming for children with colourful displays of children's art work and photographs of activities children take part in adorning the walls of the nursery. However parts of the premises, particularly the entrance hall is in poor decorative order through general wear and tear.

The nursery has good relationships with parents, who speak highly of the provision, saying it is a lovely friendly place. Good quality initial information is exchanged to ensure children care needs and interests are identified to help them settle and make progress in relation to their starting points. Parents are fully informed of their child's routines and activities that they have taken part in through verbal feedback and detailed weekly diaries. Parents are kept fully informed of their child's development through twice yearly meetings with their child's key workers. User friendly scrapbooks with photographs and children's art work and their art work provides an excellent record for parents of their child's achievements.

Children with learning difficulties and or/disabilities are fully supported in the nursery. Staff work closely with the parents and ensure that individual programs children are on are fully implemented. activities and equipment are adapted to ensure inclusion.

The quality and standards of the early years provision and outcomes for children

Children are happy, settled and enjoy their time at the nursery. There is a good key-worker system and staff extend children's thinking through the use of open questioning. They sit along side the children as they play and enjoy being with them. Staff make sensitive observations of the children as they learn through play and link children's next step of learning to the planning. They evaluate activities as to their effectiveness and children enjoyment of them. Consequently children are making good progress in their learning and development. Older children converse confidently with staff and their peers. They are inquisitive and curious and are confident to ask questions and talk to staff about the activities they are doing. They thoroughly enjoy playing a game together in which they have to identify the noise each animal makes. They show great interest in using the computers and how the programme works and appreciate the guidance they are given from staff. Children understand numbers that are important to them, such as their birthdays and enjoy a broad range of resources which develops their awareness of shape and measurement. Children of all ages enjoy stories read by staff on an individual and group basis. Their interest in books is further enhanced through visits to the local library. Older children enjoy practicing their writing skills and some can write their own name clearly, although mark making materials are not always available to children in all areas of play. All children including babies creativity is strongly encouraged through painting in various ways, sticking activities, different types of textured materials, sand, water and cooking activities. Toddler's enjoyed making star shaped biscuits for their tea and to take home. Children take part in imagined play based on their own experiences, as the play with dolls and pretend to go shopping. However the role play areas are not always presented or equipped to their full potential. Children do though use their imaginations well using plastic dinosaurs and small world people. They thoroughly enjoy singing sessions and have a good repertoire of songs and action rhymes. Children enjoy a wealth of outings develop their knowledge of the local and wider area. For example, they go on bus rides to local amenities, visit the sea side, countryside, restaurants and farms.

Babies are well stimulated with brightly coloured manufactured toys and natural items. Babies are very content as staff spend time talking and playing with them, encouraging early communication skills.

Babies are fully absorbed in their play as they fun exploring the texture of corn-flour glop on their hands and enjoy exploring toys that require them to push buttons.

Staff extend children's learning through the use of open questioning. They sit along side the children as they play, showing a genuine interest in their learning. Staff make sensitive observations of the children as they learn through play and link children's next step of learning to the planning. They evaluate activities as to their effectiveness and children enjoyment of them. Consequently children are making good progress in their learning and development.

Child's health is protected as they play and are cared for in clean premises in which

staff carry out good hygiene procedures. Children follow good routines such as washing their hands before eating and after using the toilet. They enjoy varied and nutritious meals and snacks which meet specific dietary requirements and ensure they remain healthy. Meals times are a sociable occasion and most children eat with relish. Older children serve themselves with foods most of the time, giving them choices about their food. Play equipment in the hospital grounds provides children with opportunities to develop their balance and co-ordination. All children enjoy daily fresh air through outside play. Although children are able to access the garden areas directly from doors of the playrooms, free flow play between the inside and outside is not fully established yet. First aid boxes are easily accessible and staff are trained in first aid, so minor accidents can be attended to immediately.

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

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	2

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	2
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	2
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	3
The effectiveness of partnerships	3
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	2

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	2
The extent to which children feel safe	2
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	2
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	2

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Annex B: the Childcare Register

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