University Hospital Playscheme



Montpelier Road, Dunkirk, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, NG7 2JY

Inspection date Previous inspection date	7 April 2 11 Augu		
The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being Good 2 of children			2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- A good range of resources and activities are available to children, which are easily and freely accessible. Children have good opportunities to make independent choices about how they wish to spend their time, and initiate their own learning.
- Staff ensure that the range of activities provided link closely to children's interests, so their play is enjoyable and focused.
- Staff apply effective behaviour management strategies to help children play cooperatively, share and behave in a respectful manner.
- Relationships between the children and staff are positive. This fosters children's sense of belonging. As a result, children are confident learners who enjoy their time at the provision. They are emotionally ready for their next stage in learning.
- Children benefit from regular daily outdoor activities, which promote their physical development.
- Staff have established strong partnership with parents, which helps to ensure that they securely meet children's welfare needs. This cohesive and collaborative approach also ensures that the children's learning is maximised.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Large group discussion times do not always meet the needs of the youngest children.
- Staff do not always fully promote children's awareness of their own safety and that of others.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- provide even more opportunities for the youngest children to engage in group discussions with other children of a similar age or ability, to share their own thoughts and ideas and contribute with a deeper understanding
- enhance children's awareness of the importance of staying safe, by encouraging them to be actively involved in managing the risks of the environment and their behaviour.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children in play and in their interactions with staff.
- The inspector attended a visit to the local park with the children and staff.
- The inspector engaged in conversation with staff, children and parents.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including policies, procedures and children's records. The manager's self-evaluation form was discussed.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability of staff working within the setting.

Inspector

Tracy Hopkins

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Effective teaching techniques support children to make good progress in their learning. Staff respond to children's innate spontaneity, and activities meet their individual interests. This results in high levels of participation during the activities on offer. As a result, children build on their existing skills and knowledge, preparing them well for their future learning and school. Children enjoy creating mini-beasts using paper plates. Children are well supported in their counting skills as staff skilfully ask the children to count the spots on the ladybirds and add them together. Children learn about shape and size as they construct using the shaped bricks. The large apparatus and space on the park provides ample opportunities for children to develop their physical skills. They learn control of their bodies as they climb and balance, while also enjoying physical exercise. Children are confident to speak in a familiar group as they talk about their home and school life. However, staff complete most discussion activities as a large group although there is a wide range of ages and abilities of children. Consequently, on occasion, the needs of the youngest children are not fully met and they are not able to gain a deep understanding of the discussion taking place.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Children are independent in their care routines and move around the environment confidently, making choices in their play and learning. Therefore, children develop good levels of self-esteem and a strong sense of belonging. The environment is rich in print, with children able to independently access writing materials to support their play. For instance, there is a creative table with a wide selection of resources. The manager prioritises children's safety and well-being effectively. Staff carry out daily safety checks of the premises to keep hazards to a minimum. However, children are not always involved in identifying hazards and discussing the associated risks to their safety. Consequently, their understanding of how to keep themselves and others safe is not fully promoted. Children are offered nutritious snacks and drinking water is regularly available. Staff are aware of children's dietary needs and any allergies or preferences.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

Staff provide a broad range of experiences to capture children's imaginations. The recruitment process is thorough and ensures that staff are suitably vetted and qualified. Staff are well qualified, experienced and highly motivated. They demonstrate an enthusiasm for their work and a commitment to improving achievement for all children, while having fun. All staff have the opportunity to identify courses they feel will improve their practice. Staff demonstrate a clear understanding of how to ensure the safeguarding and welfare of children. Self-evaluation is thorough. This enables the manager to maintain a clear awareness of the service offered and identify how to further improve the setting. Parents spoken to on the day of the inspection were complimentary about the high quality service offered and say how much their children enjoy attending.

Setting details

Unique reference number	254558
Local authority	Nottingham City
Inspection number	866886
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 11
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	66
Name of provider	University Hospital Day Nursery Ltd
Date of previous inspection	11 August 2009
Telephone number	0115 9420978

The University Hospital Playscheme was registered in 1998. The setting uses staff that are employed at the sister day nursery. Currently, there are three members of childcare staff working at the playscheme. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including one with Qualified Teacher Status. The setting opens from Monday to Friday, during school holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am until 5.30pm.

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