

# Willows Day Nursery

Sutton General Hospital, Cotswold Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM2 5NF



## Inspection date

15 May 2015

## Previous inspection date

24 February 2011

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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 of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Staff provide good ways for children to develop their creative skills. Children freely select from a wide range of different materials and textures, tools and resources to create art in two- or three-dimensions.
- Staff offer a broad range of stimulating tasks based on all areas of learning. Staff assess children regularly and use this information in planning effectively. As a result, they offer challenging activities that meet children's needs well.
- Children settle well because staffing arrangements are effective and ensure consistent care. Staff find out about babies' routines and they include these in the nursery, to keep things familiar and help babies feel secure.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always fully develop opportunities to strengthen children's mathematical understanding and thinking skills and explain their thought processes.
- Staff do not maximise ways for children to learn about, and use, technology.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen children's mathematical understanding and thinking skills, for example, by providing more opportunities for them to sort and group objects in different ways and explain their thought process
- develop further ways for children to learn about, and to use, technology.

## Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager of an adult-led activity.
- The inspector observed interaction between staff and children in the indoor and outdoor environment.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation and held a discussion with the manager.
- The inspector tracked the progress of several children.
- The inspector spoke to parents, staff and children and took their views into consideration.

## Inspector

Jennifer Beckles

## Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is good. Staff discuss different types of emotions with children, which promotes self-awareness and confidence. Staff teach children about the role of a hairdresser as they play in a pretend salon, which supports their understanding of the world. They teach children mathematical language, such as longer and shorter, as children try different hairstyles. Children learn good skills for later use in school. They recognise their names on cards when they arrive at the nursery, which supports their early literacy skills. Staff also provide good ways for children to practise their early writing skills in play situations. They sing counting songs with children so that they practise their counting skills, which supports early mathematical development. Children also learn to wait their turn during group discussions.

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

Staff show how much they value children by greeting them individually during morning group time. They interact warmly with children and respond well to their emotional needs. Staff teach children good dietary habits. They provide healthy, well-balanced meals which cater for special dietary needs. Staff encourage children to be independent; for example, children serve themselves and pour their own drinks at mealtimes. Staff teach children hygienic routines; for example, they wash their hands independently at appropriate times. Staff provide daily opportunities for children to get fresh air and to practise a wide variety of physical skills in the well-equipped outdoor area. They teach children how to behave in safe ways. For instance, children learn how to handle tools and materials safely and to tuck in empty chairs, to prevent accidents.

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

Children's safety is paramount. The manager has good knowledge of the regulatory requirements and has a wide range policies and procedures for children's protection. All staff have trained in safeguarding and have secure knowledge of procedures to follow should they be concerned about a child's welfare. The manager vets staff comprehensively as part of the recruitment process, which helps to protect children from harm. She identifies staff training needs well from regular appraisals. For instance, staff attended a course on sensory play for babies, which led to them creating new resources to support babies' learning. The manager supervises staff regularly to offer advice and support. Staff work well with parents and keep them informed of children's progress. They also have good links with local schools, to support children who move to school. The manager reflects on all areas of the nursery and sets clear goals for continuous improvement.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	139935
<b>Local authority</b>	Sutton
<b>Inspection number</b>	841398
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	51
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	87
<b>Name of provider</b>	Epsom & St Helier NHS Trust
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	24 February 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	020 8296 4333

Willows Day 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 in the London Borough of Sutton. The nursery provides day care primarily for children of NHS staff. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.15am to 5.45pm for 52 weeks of the year, with closure on public bank holidays. The nursery receives funding for free early years education for children aged two-, three- and four-years-old. There are 14 members of staff working with the children, including the manager. All hold appropriate early years qualifications; one staff member holds a degree in early years.

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