

Amersham Hospital Day Nursery

Amersham Hospital, Whielden Street, Amersham, Buckinghamshire, HP7 0JD



Inspection date

3 June 2015

Previous inspection date

20 January 2010

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 of children		Good	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

- The nursery is a warm and welcoming environment, indoors and outdoors. This is appealing to children who readily engage in a range of activities that challenge their abilities and thinking.
- Staff are very well trained and demonstrate a thorough understanding of how children learn and develop. This means that they know what to do to help children achieve and, overall, help children to make good progress in their learning.
- Children receive plenty of support to move on to school. Staff liaise with parents, teachers and staff at other settings the children attend to make sure they learn the skills they will need for more structured learning.
- Managers are extremely passionate in their roles. Their positive attitudes ripple throughout the team and foster a feeling of commitment and ongoing improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Managers have started to monitor staff practices but do not make the best possible use of the combined skills and knowledge of the staff team. They do not currently offer a great deal of encouragement for staff to observe their colleagues or share their own specific skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- offer more support and encouragement for staff to share their individual training and skills with colleagues to further enhance the good teaching and care.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents, verbally and in writing.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning and a range of other documentation including policies and procedures.
- The inspector observed activities and practice throughout the inspection, indoors and outdoors.

Inspector

Victoria Frost

Inspection findings

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

Children play very happily and receive many opportunities to learn from the things they are interested in. In addition, staff introduce new ideas, for example, the oldest children learn to recognise environmental logos on produce and discuss what these mean. The knowledge of staff, and quality of teaching, is consistently good, and in some cases exceptional. Parents receive many opportunities to share details of their children's preferences and interests. Staff use this information to carefully plan activities that engage and motivate children to learn. Staff also communicate regularly with others settings children attend, which helps create a clear overall picture of their individual progress. Staff work alongside other professionals to give additional support those children that need it, making sure their needs are quickly identified and met. Staff meet children's needs by offering appropriately quiet activities during times of rest. The staff are able to demonstrate that the children make steady progress in their learning and development, and identified gaps in learning are closing.

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

Staff very effectively teach children about caring for others and keeping themselves safe. This creates a respectful and responsible ethos throughout the whole nursery. As children grow, there is greater focus on celebrating individuality and becoming environmentally responsible. The staff are extremely sensitive to children as they join the nursery and give tremendous support to families, making all feel reassured and at ease. For example, particularly anxious children are given plenty of time to feel settled through visits. Healthy meals are prepared off site and served by suitably trained staff. Parents are highly enthusiastic about the quality of care their children receive, and feel that any concerns are addressed in a timely and respectful way. Children enjoy the use of the garden all year round, which has a good range of resources that promote all areas of learning.

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

Managers have high aspirations and a drive to continuously improve. Staff respond to this with enthusiasm, for example, creating focus groups and using research to drive through suggested improvements. Managers make sure there are measures to ensure consistency of care and to keep children safe from harm, such as regular staff training and induction. Staff make effective use of policies and procedures, such as a robust complaints policy, allowing any issues raised to be dealt with successfully. The way in which the managers monitor how staff make assessments has been reviewed and this is beginning to have a positive impact on children's learning. Parents communicate suggestions and ideas readily, such as ways to improve the efficiency of entering or exiting the building.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY260961
Local authority	Buckinghamshire
Inspection number	833184
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	80
Number of children on roll	84
Name of provider	Buckinghamshire Hospitals NHS Trust
Date of previous inspection	20 January 2010
Telephone number	01494 734 251

Amersham Hospital Day Nursery registered in 2003. It is located on the Amersham Hospital site, Amersham in Buckinghamshire. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 7.15am to 6pm throughout the year. It is in receipt of funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 22 staff working at the nursery, all of whom hold relevant qualifications from level 2 to level 6.

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