



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 122556

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 21/01/2004  
Inspector Name Linda Close

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Elmdon Nursery School  
Setting Address Elmcroft, Woodfield  
Ashtead  
Surrey  
KT21 2RL

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Hilary Wilkinson

## 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

Elmdon Nursery is located in a converted bungalow in a residential road in Ashted, Surrey. Children are cared for in three interconnecting rooms. Grouping for some activities is according to age. There is a fully enclosed garden area at the rear for outdoor play. Local shops, parkland and a library are all within walking distance of the nursery. It is open from 09.30 to 15.30 on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, from 09:30 until 13:30 on Mondays and from 09:30 until 12:30 on Thursdays and Fridays. The nursery is open during school term time and operates for 3 days a week during the summer holidays.

There are 4 members of staff and a visiting specialist music teacher. More than half of the staff have early years qualifications. The setting subscribes to some aspects of the Montessori approach to teaching combined with traditional teaching methods. The nursery serves families living in Ashted and the surrounding areas. Early Years Staff provide advice and support to the setting. The nursery is eligible for nursery funding for 3 and 4 year olds. There are currently thirty children on the roll aged from 2 to 5 years.

### How good is the Day Care?

Elmdon Nursery School provides a satisfactory standard of care for children. Appropriate procedures are followed for the recruitment and vetting of staff. The nursery environment is warm, bright and attractive and the organisation of space and resources is good. The premises are clean and well maintained and there is sufficient space for the children to enjoy their activities and free play. A good selection of toys and equipment are available which are equally appealing to both boys and girls. The resources are easily accessible to the children. In most respects the nursery's policy and procedure documents are kept according to regulation. However, the policy for lost or uncollected children is incomplete and registration documents lack detail.

Staff provide an interesting range of worthwhile activities to support children's development in all areas of learning. Staff take a keen interest in what the children say and do. They identify areas where children need more support and make all children welcome regardless of ability or disability. Children's differences are acknowledged although staff are not fully informed about any languages that children may hear spoken at home. Behaviour management is good.

In most respects the indoor and outdoor areas are safe for children with the exception of a few safety issues which have been overlooked. A first aider is present at all times and medication and accident records are correctly maintained. Most aspects of hygiene are managed appropriately. Staff are well aware of children's allergies and special dietary needs. Child protection issues are well known to staff and an appropriate policy is in place.

The nursery staff have established a good relationship with parents and carers. Parents are kept well informed about the nursery's provision and children's progress.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

At the last inspection staff agreed to provide drinking water for the children and to keep the accident record book up to date. A jug of water and cups are set out for children to take a drink whenever they wish. The accident record book is kept up to date.

#### **What is being done well?**

- The nursery provides a bright, welcoming environment for parents and children. The children enter the setting with pleasure and are eager to take part in their activities.
- There is a broad range of resources and worthwhile activities made available to the children. They are able to make choices and decisions and their independence is encouraged.
- Behaviour management is good. Staff are consistent, patient and calm. The children are lively but they respond well to the guidance given to them and they are learning to show consideration for others.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- the recording of fire evacuation practices
- an aspect of hygiene in relation to children washing their hands before eating snack.
- children's safety in relation to the lack of impact absorbing material under the climbing frame outside and the use of drawing pins in display boards
- the policy and procedure for lost and uncollected children which does not meet regulations and the attendance record which lacks detail
- the quality of information available to the staff about the children's experience of languages other than English.

#### **Outcome of the inspection**

Satisfactory

## 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 must take the following actions by the date shown

Std	Action	Date
14	Ensure that the nursery policy for lost and uncollected children meets regulations.	05/02/2004

### The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
6	Ensure that children using the climbing frame in the garden are safe.
6	Keep a record of fire evacuation practices.
6	Ensure that the use of drawing pins does not pose a hazard to children.
7	Ensure good hygiene practices are in place regarding hand washing.
9	Ensure that staff have sufficient detail about children's experience of languages other than English.
14	Ensure that the registration document includes times of arrival and departure.

## **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.*