

10 Questions to ask when looking for Quality Child Care:

What is the average length of time staff has been working at the Center?

How is the spread of illness controlled?

Are toys rotated and disinfected on a regular basis?

Do caregivers wash their hands after every diaper, toileting, blown noses, and before handling food?

Is the environment clean, safe and oriented to children?

Does the Center have an open door policy for parents to visit at any time?

Is a staff person trained in CPR and first aid present at all times?

Are references (criminal checks) done on all new hires?

Do children seem relaxed and happy?

Are children offered a variety of meaningful activities throughout the day?



On Children

You may give them your love, but not your thoughts for they have their own thoughts.

You may house their bodies but not their souls, for their souls dwell in the houses of tomorrow, which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.

You may strive to be like them, but seek not to make them like you.

For life goes not backward nor tames with yesterday.

You are the bows for which your children as living arrows are sent forth.

-Kahlil Gibran



ABC's
Child Care Center
at New London Hospital



ABC's Child Care Center

New London Hospital
273 County Road
New London, NH 03257
(603) 526-5242

General Information

ABC's Child Care Center is a state-licensed program located on the lower level of New London Hospital. The center was established in 1986 to help hospital employees with affordable, quality child care. Since that time, it has grown from four children in one room to an average of 36 children in three classrooms, with seven full-time staff and one director. ABC's first offers vacancies to full-time and part-time (over 20 hours) employees, followed by part-time (under 20 hours) and per diem employees, and then community members. Part-time (under 20 hours) and per diem employees and community members may be separated from the program with a 30-day written notice whenever a full-time or part-time (over 20 hours) employee requests care. **This is a rare occurrence.**

Philosophy

At ABC's, we believe that the child care experience should be a positive one, not only for the child, but also for the families. We believe the parent is the child's primary teacher in life, and that a cooperation of oneness between the home and school is essential for the child to succeed. Our qualified staff provides a supportive and stimulating environment where children have fun while learning to build self-confidence, independence and an appreciation of the uniqueness in others. We believe that children learn best when at play. That is why since our opening in 1986, we have used a play-oriented curriculum. We understand that when children are doing what comes naturally, then learning also comes naturally.

Ages

Children ages six weeks through five years old are accepted. Six-year olds are accepted for drop-in, vacation and summer camp.

Infant Program

Children 6 weeks to 12 months

Two primary caregivers staff this room. Because each infant is unique, we tailor our efforts to match the temperament and developing personalities of each baby. Parental participation and the sharing of caregiving techniques and parenting styles is encouraged. At the same time, we work toward establishing a daily routine that successfully adheres all aspects of a child's first year of life.

Young Toddler Program

Children 12-20 months

One staff person is the primary caregiver for this group. The general focus is to continue the implantation of an established routine. The child's daily tasks of separating from parent and working on an explosion of gross motor skills are examples of factors addressed in this group.

Older Toddler Program

Children 20-30 months

The established routine continues to be followed with added activities such as painting and beginning scissor use. The focus shifts toward "turn-taking" and the using of words to obtain desired results. One primary caregiver is responsible for this group.

Transition Group

Children 30-42 months

This group is for those children who are not quite ready to join the preschool program but who have outgrown the toddler program. They loosely follow the preschool schedule and adapt some of the preschool curriculum into their day. Visits to the preschool room, more structured activities and increased behavioral expectations are some of the changes addressed in this group. There is one primary caregiver for these children. Transition to the preschool program usually occurs in September, January and June.

Preschool Program

Children 3 1/2 - 5 years old

Two staff members provide care for up to 18 children in this program. The preschool room offers a preschool program from September through June and a "summer camp" program for July and August. A daily schedule during the school year is followed that gives the children a sense of structure, but is also flexible enough to accommodate their needs. The summer camp is a relaxed version of the school year program. The children spend a great deal of time outside. Craft projects are set up in the play yard, and if warm enough, a sprinkler is turned on for the children to run through.

Waiting List

If a space is not available, a child can be put on our waiting list until a space opens.

Hours

ABC's is open from 6:45 am to 5:30 pm, Monday through Friday. We are open year round and operate on the hospital schedule.

Tuition

Tuition rates are charged on a weekly or monthly basis in advance of care. Tuition remains the same for days on which there is a holiday or a child does not attend. A rate sheet is available from the director.

Staff

ABC's staff are selected for both their child care experience and nurturing ways. All staff receive ongoing training in early childhood education, encourage daily communication with parents, and either meet or exceed New Hampshire state licensing regulations. Staff longevity at ABC's averages seven years.

For More Information

For more information, call 526-5242.