

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 six 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.

The One-year-olds, Toddlers and Transitioners are "housed" in a multi-aged classroom. All the children are assigned a primary caregiver and spend time throughout the day in their designated groups.

Program for One-year-olds

Children 12-18 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.

Toddler Program

Children 18 - 24 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 24 - 36 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. These children have one primary caregiver.

Preschool Program

Children 3 - 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, water play is enjoyed outside.

Waiting List

If rooms are currently full, your child will be placed on the waiting list once the pre-registration form is returned.

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 nine years.

For More Information

For more information, call 526-5242.

**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.*

-Kabil 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