

Secret Garden Nursery and Pre-School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number

EY287497

Inspection date

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Inspector

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Type of setting

Childcare on non-domestic premises

Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

Description of the setting

Secret Garden Nursery has been open for 12 years and changed ownership in 2004. It is registered on the Early Years Register. The nursery operates from a converted barn on Elms Farm in Congresbury, North Somerset. It comprises five playrooms plus associated facilities. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area. The whole of the ground floor of the nursery is accessible to children and adults with mobility difficulties. A maximum of 47 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 08.00 to 18.00 throughout the year except for a week closure over Christmas.

Currently there are 62 children aged from birth to under five years on roll. Children come from the local community and surrounding villages. The nursery has experience of supporting children with learning difficulties and /or disabilities. The nursery employs 11 staff to work directly with the children. Nine staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications to level 3. There are two members of staff who are qualified teachers. In addition, there are three regular relief staff and a cook. The setting receives support from an advisory teacher from the Local Authority.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The nursery offers a warm and welcoming environment where children benefit from good interactions with friendly staff. Staff promote children's care, learning and development very effectively because they are well qualified and experienced and have a good knowledge of how to meet the individual needs of each child. The good partnerships built with parents, local schools and other agencies further support staff when identifying and meeting the needs of each child. At present there is no consistent system to monitor and evaluate the quality of the provision and some welfare requirements are not adequately met, however, the impact on children's safety is insignificant. Staff and parents contribute feedback and suggestions to improve the nursery, which are implemented and addressed where appropriate.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- develop an effective system to monitor and evaluate the quality of provision to ensure the needs of all children are met at all times
- ensure that all behavioural incidents are appropriately recorded

To fully meet the specific requirements of the EYFS, the registered person must:

- ensure that at least one person with a current paediatric first aid certificate is on the premises at all times when children are present. There must also be at least one person on outings who has a current paediatric first aid certificate (Safeguarding and promoting children's

18/10/2008

- welfare)
- assess risks to children when on outings and ensure actions are taken to minimise these (Suitable premises, environment and equipment)

08/10/2008

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The nursery is well managed by the owner and manager who work together to provide clear management for their staff. Children are effectively safeguarded. There are robust systems in place to recruit and check the suitability of new staff. Staff are well qualified and experienced and enjoy continuing professional development opportunities identified through the staff appraisal process. There are policies and procedures in place to secure children's safety and well being. Staff are fully involved in renewing policies and procedures at regular staff meetings. For example, they are currently discussing the behaviour management policy. However, due to lack of consistent monitoring and evaluation some welfare requirements are not adequately met. For example, no risk assessments are made to identify risks to children when they are away from the nursery. There is only one member of staff who is qualified in paediatric first aid, therefore, at times children may not be totally protected in the event of an accident. All recommendations from the last inspection have been carefully addressed to the benefit of children's care, learning and development.

Children are well supported by the key person system which ensures that staff and their key children attend on the same days, this means that staff have good opportunities to identify and meet the individual needs of children. Staff value parents as partners and exchange regular and pertinent information about children to promote their care and learning. For example, a parent commented about their child's growing interest in letters and sounds; this information was incorporated into planning for activities for next learning.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children make good progress in relation to their starting points throughout the warm and welcoming nursery. However, children's records do not show achievements and progress prior to the implementation of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Staff provide purposeful play which children thoroughly enjoy. Children's learning is very well supported by excellent interactions with knowledgeable staff. Children begin to make decisions about their own learning through choosing toys and resources from the easily accessible and abundant range of stimulating and exciting toys, resources and equipment. For example, when playing with dough children freely access and select a variety of tools to further their modelling. Staff plan effectively to provide a range of interesting and purposeful play activities based on each child interests and identified next steps in learning.

Children enjoy tasty and nutritious food and drink which is freshly prepared by the

nursery cook who uses organic and locally sourced food. Children learn about the provenance of food when growing fruit and vegetables in their organic garden. Children are highly valued as individuals and their uniqueness is recognised and celebrated by staff, this engenders a great sense of belonging in the children. Staff manage children's behaviour with sensitivity and a good knowledge of effective behaviour management, thus, children's behaviour is exemplary. When difficulties arise children are supported very well in consultation with parents and appropriate professionals. However, there is no clear system to record behavioural incidents and actions taken.

Children are encouraged to learn good self-care and hygiene routines and are appropriately supported by staff. At times, routines are not consistent throughout the nursery, for instance adults wear outdoor shoes in the baby rooms and not all staff and children wash hands before eating. Staff have a good knowledge of how to identify and respond to child protection issues. Although at present there is no qualified member of staff for child protection, a senior member of staff who has experience in dealing with such issues is to attend a relevant course later this year. Overall, children are well cared for and their learning and development needs are effectively promoted.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

Overall effectiveness

How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	Good
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	Good
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	Satisfactory

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	Satisfactory
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	Satisfactory
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	Good
How well are children safeguarded?	Satisfactory

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	Good
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to stay safe?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to be healthy?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	Good
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	Good
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	Good

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website:
www.ofsted.gov.uk

Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

Detail of the complaint/s

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.