Snapdragons of Grosvenor

4 Grosvenor Place, Bath, Avon, BA1 6AX



Inspection date9 February 2015Previous inspection date23 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Teaching is outstanding. This is because the staff are inspiring. They observe children skilfully to make sure they plan and provide rich and varied learning experiences. This helps to ensure children make rapid progress from their starting points.
- Staff provide an extremely inviting environment, with high quality resources in the indoor and outdoor play areas. This helps to support children substantially in all areas of learning and development.
- Children forge exceptionally secure attachments with their key person. This helps children to form positive relationships and gain confidence and self-esteem.
- Safeguarding is paramount in this nursery. Staff are fully aware of their responsibilities in keeping children safe and all staff are excellent role models.
- There is a strong partnership with parents and carers at the nursery. Parents are fully involved in their children's learning. This is because staff consistently share information with parents about children's progress and achievements.
- Leadership and management are inspirational. The management team has implemented an excellent programme of staff training and development. This means all staff receives consistent support to enhance their skills and knowledge for their roles and responsibilities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

 enhance children's already very good personal, social and emotional skills by teaching children to learn the importance of wiping their noses independently to improve their personal and social skills further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities throughout the nursery and outside play areas.
- The inspector held discussions with the management team and spoke with children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including staff suitability checks, the self-assessment information, children's observation, assessment and planning records, and documentation linked to managing children's progress.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Julie Swann

Inspection findings

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

Staff practice is inspiring. Teaching is based on the staff's excellent knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements. This results in children making outstanding progress. Children's communication and language skills are exceptionally well developed. For example, during group time, older children listened intently and skilfully recognised the initial sound of each other's names. Staff skilfully extended younger children's vocabulary during 'flour' play by introducing words, such as 'trickle'. This means that children's language skills are developing within a meaningful context. Children have excellent personal, social and emotional skills. However, staff do not always encourage and teach children to extend these skills by supporting them to wipe their own noses. Children relish exploring nature and the staff promote children's understanding of the world to an incredibly high standard. For example, staff take children on frequent nature hunts around the outdoor environments. In addition, children feed the nursery chickens, while staff support children's independence in doing this for themselves.

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

Children benefit from a gradual introduction to the nursery; the amount of time this takes depends on the parents' wishes and their children's individual needs. This means that children are subsequently fully at ease, which contributes superbly to their well-being and ability to form new relationships. Management and staff inspire the children to behave well as they take all opportunities to acknowledge their progress and achievements. This enables children to feel valued and respected and, therefore, encourages them to display high levels of positive behaviour. Staff prepare children to move on to school through themed activities, such as dressing up in school uniforms, and topics about moving to school. This helps children's confidence and prepares them for the next stage in their learning.

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

The extremely dedicated and enthusiastic staff team are passionate about their work, being led by an inspiring and dedicated manager and a strong management team. The management team has extensive induction, recruitment and vetting systems that help to ensure all staff working with the children are suitable to do so. As a result, the manager has a highly skilled team and children are superbly protected. The effective systems for self-evaluation show rigorous monitoring of the effectiveness of the nursery, and feedback from parents and staff help to drive further improvement. There are strong partnerships with parents, carers and other professionals. This means that children and their families are extremely well supported and all children are provided with an excellent foundation on which to build their future learning and skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number 133076

Local authorityBath & NE Somerset

Inspection number 996289

Type of provision Full-time provision

Registration category Childcare - Non-Domestic

Age range of children 0 - 5

Total number of places 60

Number of children on roll 125

Name of provider Snapdragons Nurseries Ltd

Date of previous inspection 23 May 2011

Telephone number 01225 483660

Snapdragons of Grosvenor is based within a Georgian town house in Bath City. The nursery is one of eight settings run by the same provider. Children have use of a large outdoor play area. The nursery is open daily between 7.30am and 6.30pm, all year round, except between Christmas and New Year. There are 125 children on roll. The setting welcomes children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, and those who are learning to speak English as an additional language. The nursery employs 17 staff. Of these, 14 hold appropriate early years qualifications, including the manager. Three staff members are currently undertaking apprenticeship schemes to gain appropriate qualifications. Internal advisory teachers, who hold qualified teacher status, also support the setting alongside the local authority. The nursery has a variety of small pet animals.

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