# Giant Steps Nursery

Giant Steps Nursery, Breamore Road, Downton, SALISBURY, SP5 3HN



Inspection date3 February 2015Previous inspection date26 February 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

### Summary of key findings for parents

#### This provision is good

- Staff know what each child is capable of and they make good use of this information to plan challenging activities that suit children's needs and interests well. As a result, children make good progress in their learning and development.
- The nursery works collaboratively with parents, the children's centre and other early years providers so children benefit from effectively co-ordinated learning opportunities between home and early years settings.
- Children are prepared well for the next stage of their learning, including school, because staff foster their personal, social and emotional development successfully.
- Children manage their own behaviour and follow the routines of the nursery well.
- Leaders prioritise improvement in the quality of teaching and learning. Provision has improved since the last inspection as a result.

#### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Very occasionally some staff do not react quickly enough to ensure activities completely meet the needs of all children in the room.
- The manager checks how well some groups of children are learning and supports those who make slower progress but does not monitor all groups who attend.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the quality of teaching further so all staff maximise children's learning opportunities throughout each day
- improve existing systems used to monitor children's progress so leaders know that all groups of children are making good progress and those who are making slower progress are supported to catch up.

#### **Inspection activities**

- The inspector observed staff teaching and caring for children both indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning of the educational programme and other relevant documentation.
- The inspector engaged in discussion with the manager, staff, parents and children.
- The inspector conducted two joint observations with the manager.

#### Inspector

Susan Mann HMI

# **Inspection findings**

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

Children make good progress from their starting points because staff teach them well. Staff are well-qualified and understand how young children learn. Accurate assessment provides a clear overview of what children can do and what they need to do next. Staff make highly effective use of this information to plan challenging learning opportunities that help children make progress. On occasion, some parts of the day, such as when children arrive or before they have their lunch, are not planned so well which prevents children learning as much as they could. Boys and children who enjoy the outdoors have improved their learning and development because they have lots of opportunities to play outdoors. Staff follow the children's lead well and include unique learning opportunities such as playing outdoors in the first snowfall of the year. Here children thoroughly enjoyed exploring the snow whilst digging for 'treasure' and caring for Peter, the nursery's rabbit, to make sure he had enough to eat and drink.

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

Staff get to know children and their families which helps children to settle quickly. Children who have particular individual needs or are from families facing challenging circumstances do particularly well. This is because staff give very good support to parents and their children so all feel at home in the nursery. Children's physical needs are met well. They have plenty of opportunity to play outdoors in the fresh air and develop their physical skills by running around, balancing and using garden spades and other tools. The environment supports children's learning effectively. Children throughout the nursery do well with their personal, social and emotional development. They are confident and demonstrate high levels of independence as they make choices and organise what they need for activities.

# The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The manager has taken effective steps to bring about improvement following the last inspection. Assessment and planning have been revised and now centres on children's individual needs and their next steps in learning. Frequent monitoring and supervision of staff focuses on improving the quality of teaching. Learning from training courses has improved staff's practice and children do better as a result. The manager has a good overview of the progress individual children make. In addition, she knows how well some groups of children are doing, including boys, girls and children in receipt of two-year-old funding. She has not extended this system to include the progress of all groups who attend and, therefore, does not have a clear view of which groups need most support. Staff receive relevant child protection training. They understand the signs and symptoms of abuse and know how to act upon concerns.

## **Setting details**

**Unique reference number** EY406353

**Local authority** Wiltshire

**Inspection number** 1003689

**Type of provision** Full-time provision

**Registration category** Childcare - Non-Domestic

Age range of children 0 - 8

**Total number of places** 32

Number of children on roll 64

Name of provider Giant Steps LLP

**Date of previous inspection** 26 February 2014

Telephone number 01725511138

Giant Steps Day Nursery was registered in 2007. It is a privately owned setting located within Clearbury Children's Centre in the grounds of Trafalgar School in Downton, near Salisbury. The nursery is open from 8am to 6pm each week day for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery also provides after school care and holiday care for children from the local area. The nursery receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 14 members of staff who work at the nursery. Of these, 12 hold an appropriate early years qualification to level 3.

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