

# Garden Cottage Nursery

The Square, Highden, London Road, Washington, West Sussex, RH20 4BA



## Inspection date

9 April 2015

Previous inspection date

18 October 2010

| <b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>                          | <b>This inspection:</b> | <b>Outstanding</b> | <b>1</b> |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------|----------|
|  | Previous inspection:    | Outstanding        | 1        |
| 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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>                   |                         |                    |          |

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is outstanding

- The quality of teaching is exceptional. Staff provide children with unlimited learning experiences that they seamlessly incorporate into each day. Consequently, children are extremely well motivated, confident, keen to explore and engaged in learning.
- Staff have an excellent knowledge of children's interests and next steps in learning. This enables them to plan challenging experiences for children that help them all to make outstanding progress in their development from their starting points.
- Staff are extremely warm and nurturing, and as such have strong relationships with the children.
- Strong relationships with schools help staff prepare children exceptionally well for future learning and their move to school.
- Managers have successfully cascaded the knowledge they have gained through training on Forest School to all staff. This has had an extremely positive impact on all children. They excitedly explore the environment and talk about the things that they observe.
- Staff have excellent partnerships with parents. They keep them greatly informed about their children's development. Parents take an active role in their children's learning by contributing to their learning journeys and continuing learning at home.
- Managers are committed to continuously improving the provision for children. They place high regard on children's safety and have recently installed closed circuit television equipment to help further ensure their safety.

## **What the setting needs to do to improve further**

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

- enhance opportunities for children to see letters and numbers in the outdoor environment to further increase their numeracy and literacy skills.

## **Inspection activities**

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor environment.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector tracked children's development and sampled the setting's written documentation.
- The inspector took part in a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their feedback on the setting and staff.

## **Inspector**

Hannah Barter

## Inspection findings

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

Staff sensitively observe children and use this valuable information to make precise assessments and plan for their next steps in learning. Staff are enthusiastic and make children's learning fun. Children giggled as staff drew around their hands and seamlessly encouraged them to compare sizes to strengthen their mathematical development. Staff make highly effective use of labels indoors to enhance children's learning in numeracy and literacy; however, they do not use labels as effectively outdoors. Staff expertly facilitate children's play, giving them ample time to explore and investigate. This enables them to assert their independence, think and vocalise their thoughts. For example, children excitedly explored and discussed animal tracks in the mud. Staff skilfully extended their learning by encouraging them to count the tracks, which they did with extreme confidence. Babies enjoy plentiful amounts of fresh air. Staff take them out in pushchairs and constantly talk to them about what they can see and point out animals on the way, which develops their early language skills. Staff foster children's love of reading. They take home books to read with their parents, which successfully promotes learning at home.

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

Children's behaviour is exemplary. They are polite and respectful because staff are inspiring role models who treat all children with high amounts of respect and offer them significant levels of praise. Children have an excellent knowledge of how to keep themselves safe. They discussed why they must stop, look and listen for cars, and why they must hold hands with their friends when crossing the road. Staff have an excellent knowledge of babies' routines. They recognise when they are tired and hungry and accommodate their needs quickly. Children flourish outside. They run freely through the woods, collect sticks to make a pretend fire and search for mini beasts under logs. Children have an excellent knowledge of the world around them, for example, they discussed the importance of collecting rainwater to give to the animals.

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

Management are fully committed to continuously driving improvements. They have an excellent knowledge of safeguarding practices, which ensures staff keep children safe. Management use extensive and robust recruitment procedures to help guarantee the suitability of staff. They provide stringent training for new staff before employment commences. This means they have an extremely secure knowledge of their roles and responsibilities. In depth inductions, on-going supervision and further training help contribute to staff's outstanding practice. The manager monitors their practice and provides feedback to help them continuously improve. She reviews children's progress weekly to track their development and confirm the exceptional progress they are making.

## Setting details

|                                    |                          |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>     | 113496                   |
| <b>Local authority</b>             | West Sussex              |
| <b>Inspection number</b>           | 825034                   |
| <b>Type of provision</b>           | Full-time provision      |
| <b>Registration category</b>       | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| <b>Age range of children</b>       | 0 - 8                    |
| <b>Total number of places</b>      | 78                       |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>  | 155                      |
| <b>Name of provider</b>            | Lesley Jane Denman       |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b> | 18 October 2010          |
| <b>Telephone number</b>            | 01903 877718             |

Garden Cottage Nursery registered in 2000. It is situated in Washington, West Sussex. It is open from 8am until 6pm all year round. The setting has 24 staff; of these, 20 are qualified to a minimum of Level 2 in early years. The manager holds a Level 4 qualification. The setting receives funding for the provision of early years education for children aged two, three and four.

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