

# South Hills Nursery School

South Hills School, Home Farm Road, Wilton,, SALISBURY, Wiltshire, SP2 8PJ



## Inspection date

15 April 2015

Previous inspection date

4 May 2011

<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

- Management and staff have an excellent knowledge and understanding of how children learn. Their practice is exciting, innovative and inspiring, which means they provide rich and varied activities and experiences for all children. This results in all children making exceptional progress from their starting points.
- Management and staff place an excellent focus on children's mathematical learning. As a result, children have opportunities in abundance to develop an exceptional understanding of mathematical language during play.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary. They are kind and considerate towards each other, and adhere to simple rules and boundaries extremely well. This helps children to feel safe and secure at the nursery.
- Management and staff have an extremely successful partnership with parents and carers. Parents are fully involved in their children's learning as they share information with staff on children's progress and achievements.
- Leadership is inspirational. Management and staff have a highly purposeful approach to continually enhancing the quality of the provision through rigorous self-evaluation. This draws on views from parents, staff and other professionals, but most of all from the views of children who attend.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the already excellent outdoor garden area, for example, by incorporating resources that children can choose independently, move from one place to another and express their ideas in a variety of ways.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities throughout the nursery and outside play areas and accompanied staff and children on a walk.
- 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**

Management and staff record meticulous observations and assessments, which they use to plan sharply focused next steps for each child. This results in well-targeted tracking and planning so that all children make excellent progress in readiness for school. Management and staff place a strong focus on developing children's early listening and communication skills. For example, staff provide abundant opportunities for children to learn songs and letter sounds, share stories, and access the exciting variety of reading materials. As a result, children are highly motivated and actively engaged. Children have exciting experiences outdoors and learn first-hand about farming, the weather and life cycles. All children flourish when they are involved in feeding and raising the animals that live in the outdoor nursery environment. However, staff mostly plan how children will use resources outdoors, rather than putting out a range of different resources for them to choose from independently so that they can fully use their imaginations in their play.

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

The highly effective key-person system helps children to develop exceptionally strong levels of personal independence and confidence. As a result, children form exemplary attachments with their 'special person', resulting in their emotional well-being and confidence being extremely well supported. Children learn about making healthy food choices and grow their own vegetables so that they know where their food comes from. This gives them an excellent understanding of the benefits of a healthy diet. Children develop a strong understanding of how to assess risks for themselves. For example, children change into their boots before going onto the animal fields and independently wash their hands. Management and staff place equality and inclusion at the heart of everything they do with children; as a result, they are highly effective in making sure that all children are able to participate fully in all activities and routines of the day.

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

Safeguarding is of paramount importance. Management and staff have excellent knowledge of child protection and how to keep children safe through safeguarding training. All staff undertake a rigorous recruitment and induction procedure and are encouraged to undertake training, share skills and interests, and contribute to all aspects of the provision. Management monitors the impact of training, such as about mark making, to it benefits children. The management team monitors teaching and planning highly effectively to ensure all children receive innovative and high quality learning experiences. There is outstanding partnership working with other professionals involved in children's care, such as local schools, which truly promotes the excellent 'family' ethos of this setting.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	146009
<b>Local authority</b>	Wiltshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	825886
<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>	100
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	149
<b>Name of provider</b>	South Hills School Limited
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	4 May 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	01722 744971

South Hills Nursery School opened in 1993 and is based in rural Wilton, near Salisbury. The nursery is open between 8am and 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery employs 25 staff. Of these, 19 hold appropriate early years qualifications, including the manager. Six staff members are currently undertaking schemes to gain appropriate qualifications.

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