

Smiley Face Nursery

Amesbury C E Controlled Primary School, Kitchener Road, Amesbury, Salisbury,
Wiltshire, SP4 7AX



Inspection date	27 April 2015
Previous inspection date	11 January 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Management and staff have a good understanding of how children learn and provide children with effective support. They ensure children make good progress from their initial starting points when they first attend.
- Children are well behaved and feel confident and secure in the nursery. They demonstrate this through the positive relationships they develop with staff and the happy and settled manner in which they play.
- Partnerships with parents are a key strength of the nursery and provide a shared approach to meeting the needs of children and their families. This helps to promote children's learning both at nursery and at home.
- Management and staff work well together as a team. The self-evaluation process helps to promote targeted improvements that bring about effective change in order to improve children's learning outcomes.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Not all staff fully extend and enhance children's thinking skills during play, by asking challenging questions to help children explore their ideas and solve problems.
- Younger children do not always have consistent opportunities to investigate natural resources and use their senses to explore different objects.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to develop their thinking by posing challenging questions to help them explore their ideas and solve problems
- review the organisation of indoor space, to ensure that younger children can consistently access a good range of sensory and more natural resources in order to continually promote their learning.

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 and children's records.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents 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 good

Teaching is good. Management and staff monitor and track children's progress through effective observation and assessment. This helps to ensure they have a clear understanding of the learning focus for each child. Overall, management and staff promote children's communication and language skills well. For example, children happily sat looking at books, turning pages and pointing at pictures. This demonstrates they are beginning to understand that text carries meaning. Children have many opportunities to practise their writing skills. They progress from making simple marks to forming recognisable words and letters as they write their own names. This helps develop the skills they need for school. However, there are occasions when staff do not challenge children to extend their thinking or explain and talk about their ideas. For example, children made treasure maps and experimented during water play with different sized jugs. However, not all staff asked challenging questions to help children expand their ideas and learning.

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

Management and staff implement an effective key person system, which helps children build strong relationships with their 'special person'. Furthermore, children's memory books are evidence of the commitment that staff have to their key children. This helps children settle quickly to develop their well-being and self-esteem. Management and staff actively promote children's physical development. For example, children climbed slopes, used their bodies to negotiate space and enjoyed discovering snails in the snail habitat they built. This enables children to gain an understanding of the importance of outdoor play and physical exercise. Older children show good levels of sustained interest in the broad range of well-presented resources and activities. However, indoors there is a lack of natural and sensory resources for the younger children to investigate, as these were only available outdoors. This means, their experiences are not as rich as they could be.

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

Management and staff have attended safeguarding training and have a detailed knowledge of their responsibilities and the procedures to follow should they have any concerns about a child or another adult. As a result, children are safe. The management team monitor staff performance formally through appraisals and supervision meetings and informally through observation of practice. This enables the managers to ensure that staff practice is of good quality. All members of staff take part in a continuous programme of training. This helps to improve the learning opportunities for children. Good working partnerships with other providers, schools, the local children's centre and other professionals, are well established. These close partnerships help to ensure coherence in each child's care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	145991
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	987849
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	47
Number of children on roll	112
Name of provider	Smiley Face Nursery Committee
Date of previous inspection	11 January 2011
Telephone number	01980 677025

Smiley Face Nursery opened in 1985 and is based within the Five Wishes Children's Centre in Amesbury, Wiltshire. The nursery is open between 8am and 6pm, all year round for 50 weeks of the year. There are currently 112 children on roll, all of whom attend for a variety of sessions. There are 22 members of staff employed. The manager holds an early years degree and all other staff hold an appropriate early years qualification.

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