The Garden Nursery

St Mary's, Innox Hill, Frome, Somerset, BA11 2LN



Inspection date	22 March 2016
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and ma	nagement	Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assess	sment	Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and v	welfare	Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The managers support staff well to work together as a team. There is effective communication and the managers lead the two playrooms well, providing good role models for staff.
- The managers ensure the well-qualified staff team attends regular training to extend its knowledge and improve outcomes for children.
- Staff provide good support for children's independence and social skills. They have high expectations of children and are consistent in promoting positive behaviour.
- The good partnerships with parents and outside agencies help staff to ensure all children make good progress from their starting points. Staff provide good support for children with special educational needs and those learning English as an additional language.
- Staff provide a fully inclusive environment where children develop a positive awareness of people's differences. Children help to take care of their environment and enjoy learning about the natural world.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not use all opportunities to help older children assess risks for themselves and understand safe practices fully.
- The managers do not yet monitor the progress made by different groups of children, to ensure they plan more effectively for all children to achieve at the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- help older children to identify risks for themselves and understand even more about safe practices
- extend the systems to monitor children's overall progress, to evaluate more accurately the effectiveness of planning for different groups of children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector held a meeting with the managers and carried out a joint observation.
- The inspector spoke with staff, children and parents present at the inspection, and took account of the nursery's own self-evaluation.
- The inspector checked safeguarding information and the safety of the premises.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies and procedures, children's development records and planning.

Inspector

Elaine Douglas

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The managers ensure staff deploy themselves effectively to supervise children well. Staff carry out good risk assessments and review them regularly to help them provide a safe environment. All staff and the managers attend safeguarding training and know what to do to protect children from harm. They follow their policies and procedures effectively to help keep children safe. The managers provide good support for staff. They carry out good self-evaluation and seek parents' and staff's feedback. In team meetings, they discuss and learn better ways of working. For example, following training, all staff use enjoyable games for children to learn letters and sounds.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff exchange useful information with parents so they are clear about children's developmental needs. They make secure observations and use them well to identify children's next stages of learning. They share these with parents so they can support their children's learning at home. Staff plan a good range of activities and experiences that motivate children to take part and learn new skills. For example, through enjoyable action songs, young children get to know each other, learn each other's names and take turns. Staff extend and challenge the older children's mathematical development well. For example, when children find hidden eggs, staff ask how many they still need to find. They encourage children to recall the total, and identify which colours and sizes are still missing.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff make every effort to get to know children and their families well before children first attend. They recognise the importance of children's well-being on their ability to learn. Children settle very quickly on arrival and are eager to take part in the activities. Children are confident and express their needs securely. Staff organise the environment and wide range of resources well. Children make independent choices, learn healthy practices and take care of their personal needs. For example, they peel and chop fruit, pour their drinks and wash up after their snacks.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good skills in preparation for school and their future learning. They practise early writing skills and build positive relationships as they play shops, for example. Older children work together cooperatively, making suggestions and thinking of solutions to problems. They connect different pipes together, work out how to make them stay in place and find the right size balls to roll down them. Children have good opportunities to understand the world. They sow seeds they harvest from their previous years produce in compost they make, and nurture them to pick and cook with when ripe.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY478970

Local authority Somerset

Inspection number 979914

Type of provision Sessional provision

Day care type Childcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register

Age range of children 2 - 4

Total number of places 52

Number of children on roll 44

Name of provider

The Garden Nursery Childcare Centre Ltd

Date of previous inspectionNot applicable

Telephone number 01373 453345

The Garden Nursery opened in 1968. It re-registered in 2014. The nursery is privately owned and operates from the grounds of St Mary's Church in Frome, Somerset. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. It opens Monday to Friday from 9.15am to 3.15pm during school term times. There are five members of staff, all of whom hold level 3 early years qualifications.

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