

Heathcote House Nursery and Pre-School

The Green, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 5AA



Inspection date	5 September 2016
Previous inspection date	25 June 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Overall, the quality of teaching is good. Children are motivated and keen to take part in the interesting activities. They make good progress in their learning.
- Assessments of children's learning are used effectively to plan to help children develop well across all areas of learning. Staff use good systems to track children's progress, and quickly identify and target any gaps in their development.
- Staff and management draw on their wealth of experience and qualifications to support all children who have special educational needs or disability. They use funding well to support two-year-olds.
- Staff work well with parents and this has a positive impact on children's learning experiences at home as well as in nursery.
- The principal evaluates the quality of the provision effectively. She identifies staff training through well-considered supervision and appraisal meetings. For example, staff have recently learnt how best to support children who have special educational needs or disability.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, provision in the garden does not fully support those children who prefer to learn outside.
- Staff do not consistently recognise changes in the routine as an opportunity to help further children's learning and development, and on occasion children's time is not used as well as possible.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop and improve provision in the garden to fully support those children who prefer to learn outside
- make the most of opportunities during changes in the routine to help children continue to learn and make progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff's interactions with children, indoors and in the garden.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation and considered written information from parents.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the principal.
- The inspector conducted a leadership and management meeting with the principal.
- The inspector held discussions with staff at appropriate times.

Inspector

Angela Cogan

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The principal and staff understand safeguarding procedures and child protection issues. The principal is skilled at reflecting on staff practice and evaluating the quality of the provision. This helps to improve children's experiences. For example, staff have developed a sensory play room so that children can learn through exploratory experiences. Children are well prepared for school. The principal and her team have built good relationships with other settings and relevant professionals. Children benefit from a joined-up understanding of their care and learning needs. The principal has developed a very positive culture that supports change and improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children consolidate their learning and practise new skills. For example, they master the steps on a high slide and develop their counting skills as they climb. Staff provide an exciting range of activities that motivate children to learn. For example, older children experiment with water and chalk, and are completely engaged as the chalk dissolves. Children are very keen to look at books; they use the pictures to tell stories and improve their early reading habits. Children explore in a mud kitchen and staff help them think about size and quantity. Children develop their understanding of mathematics. They experience challenge and make discoveries as they play. For example, children learn about capacity as they fill and empty pots and dishes, and learn about numbers while they sing songs and rhymes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour is consistently good. Children are enthusiastic about their play and learning. For example, staff encourage babies to choose toy animals from a bag and they eagerly join in with songs about the one they pick. Staff are good at extending children's ideas while they experiment and explore. For example, children build a train track and staff incorporate counting and singing into the game. Children have lots of opportunities to be outside, and they get plenty of fresh air and exercise. Children experiment and follow their own ideas. For example, children and toddlers build an elaborate balancing course with crates and planks, developing their social skills as they play together. Staff support and praise children effectively, to build on their confidence and self-esteem.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop many skills in readiness for school. They operate with enthusiasm and independence. Children get on well with each other, and they are respectful and kind. Children respond well to the routine and understand what is expected of them. They experience lots of challenge and success.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY232048
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	1061656
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 7
Total number of places	63
Number of children on roll	69
Name of registered person	Keith Hudson and Jean Hudson Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP520695
Date of previous inspection	25 June 2013
Telephone number	01380 725 080

Heathcote House Nursery registered in 2002. It is situated in Devizes, Wiltshire. The nursery is open from 8am to 6pm on weekdays all year round, except for bank holidays and a week at Christmas. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 16 staff. All but three members of staff have relevant childcare qualifications at level 3 or level 4.

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