

Hillsides Secret Garden Day Nursery

23 Gladstone Street,, Staple Hill, Bristol, BS16 4RF



Inspection date

3 January 2017

Previous inspection date

21 November 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

- Staff support children's emotional well-being effectively, especially when they move on to the next room as part of their development. Children have high self-esteem, behave well and build strong relationships with each other and familiar adults.
- There are effective systems to observe, plan and assess children's progress. Staff build on children's existing skills well, helping them to make good progress from their starting points. The management team tracks children's progress efficiently and provides staff training to meet children's needs such as to improve two-year-olds' speech.
- Staff forge positive relationships with parents and other agencies to maintain a consistent approach to children's welfare and development. This is particularly evident in the support provided for children with additional needs.
- The management team uses self-evaluation effectively to reflect on practice and identify areas to improve. For example, evaluations of the outside area have identified further improvements to support all areas of children's learning more fully.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not have enough opportunity to solve problems and be independent in some planned activities.
- Staff do not always support older children to match and recognise numbers, to extend their mathematical skills in readiness for school.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with further opportunities to be independent and solve problems during activities
- increase opportunities for older children to match and recognise numbers to help extend their mathematical development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff's interactions with children as they played inside and outside.
- The inspector held discussions with the management team, parents, staff and children at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled documentation including children's assessment records, staff suitability checks, and policies and procedures.

Inspector

Rachael Williams

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff have a good knowledge of their responsibilities to report any concerns about a child's welfare. The management team uses effective arrangements to assess staff's suitability. It provides valuable support and guidance to help staff provide good-quality teaching and develop their professional skills and knowledge. Staff effectively engage parents in their children's learning, for example, to teach children new sports and share their experiences. Parents comment that they find the 'take-home boxes' very useful, giving them ideas to extend learning at home and support changes such as the arrival of a new sibling.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children well to gain good communication and language skills. For example, they actively encourage older children's involvement in stories, questioning them effectively. Staff are patient, giving children time to respond to questions and valuing their ideas. Staff have attended training since the last inspection to improve these skills significantly. Children have good opportunities to explore and are very excited to see the frost and ice, which they investigate further. Children show a good understanding that the ice will melt once the sun comes out. Staff plan activities well to consolidate children's experiences. For example, they provide a wide range of sensory opportunities for younger children, such as glittery sand and flour to imitate the marks they made in the frost, helping them to make connections in their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff have a good knowledge of babies' home routines to meet their care needs extremely well. Staff provide good opportunities for children to make decisions about their play. For example, a wide range of resources is within easy reach for children to add to their play such as different shapes and tools in their sand play. Staff are good role models. They help children well to follow effective hygiene practices. For example, staff guide children to a mirror so they can see that they need to blow their nose. Toddlers show concern for the younger children. For example, when young babies can no longer reach a desired box, older children recognise their distress and pass it to them.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain good skills for their future learning in an environment where they feel safe and secure. They communicate well and express their ideas clearly. For example, young children confidently invite others to play with them. They offer them chalks and communicate their ideas well, such as to draw round their hand, developing good early writing skills. Children listen well and follow instructions such as to make play dough. Babies confidently explore the environment with good staff support and encouragement.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY461990
Local authority	South Gloucestershire
Inspection number	1063503
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	69
Name of registered person	Hillside's Secret Garden Day Nursery LTD
Registered person unique reference number	RP532541
Date of previous inspection	21 November 2013
Telephone number	01179 047106

Hillside's Secret Garden Day Nursery re-registered due to a change in ownership in 2013. It is located in Staple Hill, South Gloucestershire. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, all year round except for bank holidays. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The three directors hold early years qualifications at either level 3 or 4. They employ seven members of staff; of whom, six hold early years qualifications at level 3 and one holds a level 2 qualification.

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