

# Southern Links Childrens Centre

Whittock Road, Bristol, BS14 8DQ



<b>Inspection date</b>	18 January 2017
Previous inspection date	30 June 2014

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is outstanding

- The quality of teaching is consistently outstanding. The manager uses funding to provide children with a wide range of exceptionally well-planned experiences which motivate them to take part. Children's behaviour is excellent. They use impressive social skills and build lovely friendships.
- Staff make detailed and incredibly well-evaluated observations of children's play and very accurate assessments of their learning. They track the progress of individual children and groups of children's progress to identify any gaps in development. This helps to ensure children achieve as well as possible.
- Staff and managers use their vast experience and wealth of qualifications exceptionally well. They build extremely positive relationships with parents that have a huge impact on children's lives at home as well as in the setting.
- The manager has highly effective systems to evaluate the quality of the setting. She monitors her team's performance to ensure staff development is targeted and successful. This has a fantastic impact on outcomes for children. For example, since training, staff have significantly improved the quality of their interactions with children to help improve their language and communication skills.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- implement plans to build further on the superb support for children to learn about wildlife, nature and the local community.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff's interactions with children across the setting.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including the safeguarding policy and children's learning journals.
- The inspector conducted a leadership and management discussion with the management team.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents, and took their opinions into account.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.

### Inspector

Angela Cogan

## Inspection findings

### **Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding**

Safeguarding is effective. Staff and managers have an exceptional understanding of safeguarding procedures and child protection issues. Managers are highly skilled at evaluating the setting and make very well-considered and targeted improvements which have a fantastic impact on children's experiences. For example, staff are involved in an in-depth research project focusing on the best ways to engage boys in literacy activities. Managers plan to improve the setting further by implementing plans to develop more activities within the surrounding countryside and local area. Very meaningful relationships with others settings and professionals enhance children's experiences and promote a shared understanding of their needs. Staff and managers develop a highly ambitious culture and provide children with a great platform from which to make progress.

### **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding**

Children constantly explore and investigate with vigour and enthusiasm. For example, they experiment with sticks and pebbles and transport them using wheelbarrows. They play with purpose and intent, and staff are excellent at valuing children's ideas. Children are motivated and excited. For example, after making mud pies in the garden they cannot wait to listen to a story about a monster who loves to eat them. Staff develop children's understanding of story characters and help them add actions and props to make the tale come to life. Children are continually challenged as they play. For example, even the youngest children play with perseverance and concentration as they sort and order shells and seed pods. They learn to look really closely at different qualities, shapes and colours.

### **Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding**

Children's behaviour is impressive. They play in an exceptionally settled and interested way. For example, they can't wait to start the day outdoors exploring with sand and water. Staff make sure children's physical and emotional needs are very well met. They are completely in-tune with children's emotional needs and ensure they continually receive the care and attention they need. Children enjoy a vast range of challenging outdoor experiences. They use really well-developed physical skills and get lots of fresh air. The key-person system promotes children's emotional well-being exceptionally well. After attending for only short time children build amazing relationships with staff and settle incredibly easily.

### **Outcomes for children are outstanding**

Children's development is impressive. They play with great levels of independence and use a range of skills that will help them as they move on to pre-school. Children develop a real love of exploring and learning.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY470209
<b>Local authority</b>	Bristol City
<b>Inspection number</b>	1069846
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 3
<b>Total number of places</b>	20
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	12
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Bristol City Council
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP526904
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	30 June 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	0117 3533503

Southern Links Children's Centre registered in 2014. The nursery is situated on the Stockwood site of Southern Links Children's Centre in south Bristol. It opens Monday to Thursday from 8.30am to 12.15pm during term time only. There are seven members of staff working directly with children each day, three of whom hold a recognised childcare qualification at level 3. The staff team is supported by the children's centre lead teacher, who holds qualified teacher status, and the children's centre manager, who holds an appropriate qualification at level 7. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two and three years.

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