

# Secret Garden Nursery and Pre-School

The Barns, Brinsea Road, Congresbury, Avon, BS49 5JL



## Inspection date

24 May 2017

## Previous inspection date

11 May 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	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 provider is extremely passionate about providing the best possible care and learning environment for the children. She has a really clear vision for developing outdoor learning because she feels that children thrive when learning outdoors.
- The provider and staff have created an extremely enabling environment for the children. Children have excellent opportunities to practise complex skills. For example, children cut wood using a saw and then confidently use hammers and screwdrivers to build models with the wood.
- Practitioners have extremely high expectations of children. They fully understand and respect the children as competent learners. For example, staff provide excellent support to help even the very youngest children to take responsibility for resolving their conflicts with other children.
- Children enjoy a superb range of exciting opportunities to make discoveries. For example, they thoroughly enjoy learning about cause and effect as they cover small lights with different fabrics in the sensory room. Children are excited by their discoveries and so they are eager for further learning.
- Provision in the setting is constantly reviewed by the provider in order to continually improve practice. For example, she plans to introduce home visits because she feels that these will have positive benefits for children and provide reassurance for parents.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to refine questioning skills so that children always have the time they need to think before answering and so maintain the excellent progress they are already making in developing their thinking abilities.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed care and teaching practices indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children, and took account of their views.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.

### Inspector

Patricia Pillay

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The provider uses frequent observations to monitor staff's practice extremely effectively and acts swiftly to train staff when she identifies areas for development, such as a need to increase teaching of mathematics for older children. Safeguarding is effective. The provider is deeply committed to ensuring a safe environment is provided. The manager ensures all staff fully understand their safeguarding responsibilities by frequently testing their understanding in great depth. There are highly effective systems in place to enable the provider to monitor the progress of all children. She very swiftly identifies any areas of concern and discusses support strategies with the child's parents and key person. Parents feel that they and their children are extremely valued and cherished in the setting because the provider has established very effective partnerships.

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

Staff ensure that there is a wealth of engaging learning experiences available to children. Children of all ages are extremely well supported to experiment and to actively engage in problem solving. Even the youngest children set their own puzzles and work out their own solutions. For example, babies spend long periods happily exploring ways to transport water and make it move along a pipe in the garden. Staff know their key children extremely well and so they are able to plan really effectively to support children's learning, using their individual interests. Staff recognise the importance of continuing to enhance their questioning skills, to give children as much support as possible to maintain their excellent progress in developing their thinking abilities.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff believe that parents are an invaluable part of the nursery. Staff always ensure they have an abundance of good-quality time to speak with parents about their child's day. Staff ensure that mealtimes are exceptionally calm and happy for the children. Children use glasses and china plates, and staff teach them to use cutlery correctly. This contributes towards children being extremely well prepared for their move to school. Children are able to make real choices about their eating as they serve their own food. The cook sits with the children at lunchtime and talks to them enthusiastically about the food. As a result, children are extremely willing to try foods from a wide range of cultures, such as couscous.

### Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are exceptionally happy and confident at nursery. They welcome visitors and willingly engage them in conversation. Children are extremely competent. For example, they confidently use knives to cut fruit. Children have excellent opportunities to explore their own interests over time as they make links between their learning inside and outside. For example children explore a bird's nest they have found in the garden. They talk about how the nest was made and try making nests using lots of different materials.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY287497
<b>Local authority</b>	North Somerset
<b>Inspection number</b>	1092006
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	48
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	48
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Stefanie Jayne Metcalfe
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP514026
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	11 May 2015
<b>Telephone number</b>	01934 853350

Secret Garden Nursery and Pre-School registered in 2004. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm, all year round. There are 12 members of staff. Nine members of staff hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3 or above. One has early years professional status and one has qualified teacher status.

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