

# Giant Steps Seaham

Haven House, SEAHAM, County Durham, SR7 0DR



## Inspection date

Previous inspection date

19 January 2018

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Staff provide a vibrant and highly welcoming environment and are highly skilled at nurturing children's love of learning. Children thrive and relish the superb opportunities provided to play, explore and discover.
- Staff use highly accurate assessments to quickly identify any gaps in children's learning and promptly seek additional support. This significantly contributes towards the substantial progress that all children are making.
- The management team is highly committed to achieving the best possible outcomes for children. Rigorous self-evaluation leads to precise plans for improvement. This includes the views of parents and children.
- The key-person system works exceptionally well, children form strong attachments to their special person very quickly. Staff quickly establish an excellent understanding of children's needs during their induction visits.
- Children benefit from staff using highly successful communication methods to involve parents in nursery experiences. Staff take every opportunity to involve them in their child's daily care and give them guidance on how they can develop their child's active learning at home.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to enhance the highly stimulating outdoor area, particularly for those children that love to play outside.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector had a tour of the premises and spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the acting nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the acting nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Lynne Pope

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Excellent leadership and management underpin extremely high-quality practice and precisely targeted continued improvement at this nursery. The provider constantly provides the well-qualified staff with exceptional guidance and training that successfully influences the quality of teaching, learning and assessment. For example, following on from training in woodwork staff were inspired. They have taught children how to use tools safely and children have created their own pieces of woodwork. The acting manager observes staff in their work as part of the rigorous monitoring of suitability. Supervision meetings help to keep staff highly motivated and develop their excellent teaching skills even further. Safeguarding is effective. The acting manager and staff have an excellent understanding of safeguarding procedures and what to do to help to protect children from harm.

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

Observation, planning and assessment processes are exceptionally rigorous. Staff know children remarkably well and plan activities based on their interests. They are skilled in knowing how children learn best and provide activities to challenge and extend their learning. For example, the provision of fresh vegetables in the play kitchen inspires children to investigate. They show high levels of curiosity, asking what some of them are and with the close supervision of staff use knives to cut them up. Staff skilfully promote communication and language skills well. They ask open-ended questions and give children time to think and respond. Staff take every opportunity to promote early literacy skills. For example, they frequently ask children what the first letter of a word is, such as their name. All children develop excellent listening and attention skills. For example, they learn to take account of each other when working as a group.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children have plenty of opportunities to practise their physical skills, for example, as they play with vigour and energy outdoors in the fresh air. They become involved in painting with rollers, exploring what the water does to ice when poured on it and where water goes when poured down a ramp. Staff are now considering how to further promote water activities for children as they clearly love playing with this. Children behave extremely well and swiftly rise to staff's high expectations. Highly effective behaviour management strategies support children to develop their self-esteem and confidence. Staff give clear explanations to children regarding managing their own safety, such as how to carry a knife safely.

### Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are exceptionally inquisitive and relish exploring. They are enthusiastic to join in and participate in activities. They remain engrossed and engaged in purposeful activities for incredibly long periods of time. Children make significant progress and develop a wealth of skills that prepare them extremely well for starting school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY494558
<b>Local authority</b>	Durham
<b>Inspection number</b>	1035612
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	28
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	16
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Giant Steps Horden Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP901301
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable
<b>Telephone number</b>	0191 5979012

Giant Steps Seaham registered in 2016. The nursery employs four members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 8.45am until 3.45pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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