

# Inspection of Sunbeams Day Nursery

Hawkers Hill, Mitcheldean, Gloucestershire GL17 0BS

---

Inspection date: 14 November 2023

**Overall effectiveness** **Good**

---

The quality of education **Good**

Behaviour and attitudes **Good**

Personal development **Good**

Leadership and management **Good**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection Good

## **What is it like to attend this early years setting?**

### **The provision is good**

Children develop well in this friendly, fun nursery. The manager, who is the owner, and her team know what they want children to learn and how they plan to teach. Children enjoy a wide range of experiences indoors and out, which help develop their skills and abilities. Staff have close relationships with children and toddlers and are attentive to their individual needs. The flexible routine helps children to know what happens next. Staff are consistent and have clear expectations for children. They set realistic and achievable boundaries, creating a secure atmosphere where children behave well.

There is a clear focus on language for speaking and developing children's confidence. All staff get down to children's eye level and engage in active conversations about what they are doing and how else they might try things. Children develop their imagination during play and link it to real-life experiences. Staff encourage cooperative role play. For example, children use 'money' and tills in the outside 'post office'. They talk together about posting letters to a birthday party, who they want to invite and what will happen at the party. Children show excitement as they discuss with staff how to build and topple large towers made with the crates in the garden. Staff regularly praise, remind and thank children for having a go and doing their best. This nurtures children's self-esteem.

Children are learning to be patient and listen as staff explain and give instructions. Staff model and provide many opportunities for children to take it in turns to wash their hands, line up and be next. This helps support children's self-control.

### **What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?**

- Staff understand that toddlers enjoy investigating and are beginning to develop their independence. They enable them to explore and are on hand for reassuring cuddles. This helps young children to feel emotionally and physically safe as they play. Toddlers gain confidence climbing on the slide and crawling through the tunnel.
- Children like the focus on nursery rhymes. They experience the patterns and sequence as they begin to learn simple mathematical skills when they recite 'Hickory dickory dock'. They recognise numbers on the clock and are thinking about time and how long things take. Staff support the theme of 'more' and the 'same' throughout daily activities, modelling and teaching. This helps promote children's mathematical understanding and language.
- Staff are a good team. They know their expertise, interests and strengths to promote consistent practice. They feel well supported by the manager, who takes their well-being and workload into account. Staff have access to a range of training opportunities and ad hoc meetings to keep up to date. While staff have

individual discussions with the manager, she does not make the most of supervision sessions to monitor staff's professional practice more closely to develop the quality of provision for children even further.

- Relationships with parents are effective. Parents speak very highly of the support, guidance and communication they have with the nursery team. They say staff are approachable and nothing is too much trouble. Parents know about their child's learning and development through regular updates on the online system the nursery uses. They say their children are much more sociable since coming to nursery.
- Staff use children's interests to focus and plan play opportunities. They use observations to assess children's development and identify any gaps in their learning. They plan what children need to learn next. However, they do not always extend and build on what some children can do and provide the challenge they need for even further progression.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are well supported. The manager works with her team to accurately identify children's needs. The staff team work well with parents and external agencies to plan the right support. Staff review children's targets regularly. As a result, children progress well.

## **Safeguarding**

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager ensures that staff have access to regular training to update their knowledge of child protection and safeguarding issues. Staff demonstrate a good understanding of the procedures to follow should they have a concern about a child's welfare or the behaviour of a staff member. They know the signs and symptoms that suggest a child is at risk of harm. The manager has robust procedures in place for the recruitment and induction of new staff to ensure they are suitable. Children are well supervised and play and learn in a safe and secure environment.

## **What does the setting need to do to improve?**

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

- strengthen staff support to continuously develop their knowledge and skills to provide more challenge and encourage children's best possible progress in their learning.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	101586
<b>Local authority</b>	Gloucestershire
<b>Inspection number</b>	10307825
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	1 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	68
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	64
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Hale, Sharon
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP908470
<b>Telephone number</b>	01594 541054
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	23 March 2018

## Information about this early years setting

Sunbeams Day Nursery registered in 2001. It is located in Mitcheldean, Gloucestershire. The nursery is open from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, all year round. There are 13 members of staff working directly with the children. Of these, one member of staff holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 6, 10 hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 3 and one at level 2. The nursery receives funding for the provision of early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

## Information about this inspection

**Inspector**  
Claire Cook

## Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk together across the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector spoke to children to find out about their time at the nursery.
- Staff spoke to the inspector at appropriate times during the inspection and the inspector took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation during a planned activity.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/), write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: [psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk)

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate  
Store Street  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/ofsted)

© Crown copyright 2023