

Secret Garden Children's Centre

Lindhurst Road, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, S71 3NB



Inspection date

28 September 2015

Previous inspection date

19 March 2012

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

- Children benefit from effective teaching. The well-qualified staff team has a good knowledge of children's individual skills and capabilities and use this information well to meet children's learning and care needs.
- Disabled children and those with special educational needs make good progress due to the high level of support from staff and positive relationships with other agencies to ensure timely interventions.
- The nursery is extremely welcoming and inclusive. Children's personal, social and emotional development are given high priority by staff. Good relationships between staff and children ensure that children are emotionally secure.
- Staff continually share information with parents and ensure that they contribute to their child's progress. Parents share very positive views about the provision.
- Staff effectively promote children's communication and language development. Sign language is used effectively as younger children begin to develop speaking skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always challenge more-able children sufficiently to enable them to make rapid progress in their learning.
- Children do not always have enough opportunities to learn about or to use technology as part of their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more-able children with sufficient challenge to increase the potential for them to make rapid progress in their learning
- provide opportunities for children to select and use technology to enhance their future learning.

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 completed a joint observation with the supervisor.
- The inspector spoke to staff and held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, including the pre-school's self-evaluation and improvement plan.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Rachael Barrett

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The provider and manager have a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements and they implement them effectively. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are fully aware of how to protect children and clearly understand what they need to do if they have concerns. Recruitment and selection procedures are clear and vetting procedures for staff are thorough. The provider and manager regularly observe staff practice, in order to discuss strengths and areas for improvement during supervision sessions. The provider's priority for improvement is for the manager to source further development opportunities. This will be to support and guide staff in providing outstanding learning experiences, in order to ensure consistency and best practice for promoting children's learning. All children, including those in receipt of funded early education, make consistently good progress in their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Precise and accurate assessments mean that staff and the leadership team can monitor children's learning needs and identify if any additional support is needed. Children engage well in the variety of activities provided. For example, older children excitedly hunt for spiders in the outdoor area while the youngest children use shredded paper to fill and empty their buckets and wheelbarrows. Staff promote children's communication and language skills effectively. For example, they model new words and encourage children to describe what the textured paint looks and feels like. However, on occasion children's learning is not extended to the highest level as staff miss opportunities to challenge them further. A positive partnership with parents ensures that they are well informed and are able to support their children's learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour is good across the nursery. This is because staff help children to develop strong relationships with one another. As a result, children make friends easily, they listen to each other and play well together. Older children clearly understand right from wrong. Children learn about their own families and those of others in the setting through discussions and planned activities. This helps them to learn to appreciate and respect differences. The promotion of children's safety and welfare is good across the nursery. For example, children learn to take measured risks as they carefully use tyres to climb and balance upon and ramps to ride their wheeled toys up and down.

Outcomes for children are good

All groups of children, including children for whom the nursery receives additional funding, make good progress in their learning. The provider and manager monitor the educational programmes and have identified for themselves that children do not always have enough opportunities to learn about technology. Regular checks on children's learning journals and planning for activities ensure that all children, including those who need extra support, make good or better progress. The nursery has a close partnership with the main school to which children transfer. Consequently, children are well prepared for their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY313786
Local authority	Barnsley
Inspection number	873148
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	37
Name of provider	Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Date of previous inspection	19 March 2012
Telephone number	01226 296969

Secret Garden Children's Centre was registered in 2005. The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens Monday to Friday with varying sessions running between the hours of 8.30am until 4.15pm, term time only. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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