

Garden House Nursery School

18a St. Nicholas Street, IPSWICH, IP1 1TJ



Inspection date

13 January 2016

Previous inspection date

27 June 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

- The nursery is led and managed effectively. The nursery is organised effectively, to ensure that the requirements are met. Staff are enthusiastic and motivated. They work well as a team to meet children's individual care and learning needs.
- Management and staff reflect on the service that they provide. They seek the views of parents and children when planning for improvement. They are committed to providing a high-quality experience for all children.
- The thoughtfully planned playrooms support children to engage in purposeful play. Children benefit from an interesting and varied range of resources that promote all areas of learning.
- Staff observe children as they play and evaluate their observations well. This supports them to identify where children are in their learning and what they need to do to support their continuing progress.
- The key-person system is implemented well. Key persons build friendly and trusting relationships with children and parents. Staff are committed to working together with parents and keep them informed about their children's day and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The monitoring of children's progress does not yet identify if there are gaps in the attainment of different groups of children, so that steps can be taken to close them.
- Adult supervised, activity time in the Poppies room is not organised well. Staff do not effectively support children to lead their own play or complete activities of their own choosing.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- put in place systems for tracking different groups of children, so that any gaps in learning can be identified and managed at the earliest opportunity
- review how the adult supervised, activity time in the Poppies room is organised, to enable children to have more opportunities to lead their own play and complete activities of their choosing.

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 spoke with staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector looked at activity planning, records of children's learning and a selection of policies and records.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jacqueline Mason

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Management and staff have a good awareness of the signs and symptoms of abuse. They all attend regular training in child protection, to ensure that they are up to date with latest guidance and know how to report concerns. Staff carry out regular risk assessments and make necessary adaptations to safety practices. This supports children to play safely, both indoors and outside. Recruitment is effective. Necessary checks are carried out to verify that staff are suitable to work with children. Staff training and professional development opportunities are supported well. There is a well-established programme of regular staff supervision and appraisal. Staff are led by a management team that supports them well in their day-to-day practices. Good steps have been taken to address the recommendations raised at the last inspection.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know children well. They find out about children's starting points when they first attend the nursery and continue to encourage parents to share what they know about their child. Staff talk confidently about where children are in their learning and development. They plan and provide a varied range of activities that support children's progress. Staff engage well with children, effectively supporting their speech and language development. They respond well to the babbles and gestures of babies and engage older children in conversation. Children enjoy their interactions with staff, sitting together to look at books and building with the construction bricks. All children across the nursery have daily opportunities to be outdoors. Children who learn best from being outdoors are supported well across all areas of learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's move from home to nursery is managed well and transitions between rooms are effective. Children are happy and settled. They develop the confidence to embrace new experiences and become ready for school. Children behave well and respond positively to the consistent ground rules. Children develop good friendships with each other, play well together and have regard for each other's needs and feelings. They are supported well by staff to respect each other's similarities and differences and develop positive attitudes to others. Children feel safe. Their health and physical needs are met well. Staff encourage children to manage their own personal hygiene, relevant to their age. Staff find out about children's individual routines and follow these, effectively supporting continuity of care.

Outcomes for children are good

Staff assess children's learning to ensure that they are making progress and any gaps are identified. Records indicate that individual children make good progress from their starting points. Children are working comfortably within the expected bands for their age and develop a good foundation to support their future learning. They understand that print carries meaning and older children learn to recognise initial sounds. Children count spontaneously as they play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY421648
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	852241
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	53
Number of children on roll	79
Name of provider	Timothy Richard Fitzgerald
Date of previous inspection	27 June 2012
Telephone number	01473 281616

Garden House Nursery School was registered in 2009. The nursery employs 14 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an early years qualification at level 6 and all other staff have early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. It is closed for a week at Christmas and bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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