

# Inspection of South Wonston Day Nursery

Groves Close, South Wonston, Winchester, Hampshire SO21 3EP

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Inspection date:

22 September 2025

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## **Overall effectiveness**

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## **Requires improvement**

The quality of education

**Requires improvement**

Behaviour and attitudes

**Requires improvement**

Personal development

**Requires improvement**

Leadership and management

**Requires improvement**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Inadequate

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

### The provision requires improvement

Leaders have worked hard to raise the quality of the provision since the last inspection. They acknowledge that there are some areas that still need improving, such as embedding the new curriculum. For instance, some of the activities that staff provide do not fully engage children's interests. This does not help children to make the best possible progress. Leaders and staff are keen to continue working with other professionals, to help raise the quality of the provision further. Although risk assessments are in place, staff are not always vigilant enough to remove all potential hazards in the environment.

Children are happy and have fun as they play. Staff take the time to settle new children as they arrive, offering plenty of cuddles and reassurance. This helps children to feel safe and secure. Staff are good role models and promote positive behaviour. For example, children receive praise and encouragement as they learn how to share, take turns and play cooperatively together.

Staff support children's communication, language and literacy development. For example, they engage children in back-and-forth conversations, introducing new vocabulary as they play. Children begin to develop a love of books. For instance, they listen carefully to staff as they read stories with enthusiasm. Children develop their imaginations and vocabulary as they pretend to glide through the air like flying dinosaurs.

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

- Leaders and staff have worked well to address concerns raised at the last inspection. For example, all staff have completed recent safeguarding training. They have a secure understanding of the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about children's welfare. Staff are clear about their responsibilities to ensure that children are well supervised at mealtimes. This minimises the risk of choking and helps to keep children safe.
- Leaders have made improvements to the outdoor learning environment. Staff complete daily risk assessments to help them identify and minimise hazards. However, these are not always effective. For instance, the environment is cluttered, and some potential hazards remain. Although leaders address these risks promptly once they are pointed out, staff lack a secure understanding of how to independently assess risks to children. That said, due to the close supervision of children, there has been no impact on children's safety.
- Leaders and staff have worked together to plan a new curriculum since the last inspection. Staff focus on building on children's interests and independence. They plan a range of experiences and activities for children to enjoy. However, at times these do not always capture the interests or address the differing needs of

children. This leads to some children becoming disengaged in their learning and moving between activities frequently.

- Leaders are reflective and committed to overcoming challenges, such as changes in the staff team. For instance, staff training helps them identify and support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff are beginning to work with parents and other professionals to put strategies and targeted interventions in place. Staff are keen to build on their knowledge and skills to help all children make progress from their starting points.
- Staff teach children about mathematics in fun ways. For example, they encourage children to count their friends during group times and to count building blocks as they build towers. Staff support children to recognise numbers through interesting activities. These opportunities help children with their early number skills.
- Overall, there are good relationships between staff and parents. Staff gather information from parents about their children's individual needs, personalities and routines, when they first start. Parents comment on the friendly staff and the progress their children make, especially in their self-confidence, speech and language skills. However, leaders and staff do not share what children need to learn next well enough with parents. This does not help parents to continue their children's learning at home.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

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

**To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:**

|                                                                                                      | Due date   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| ensure staff understand how to identify and manage risks to provide a safe environment for children. | 06/10/2025 |

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

- support staff to implement the new curriculum so that activities and daily routines focus more precisely on the skills children need to learn next
- develop communication with parents so they have useful information about how they can support their children's learning at home.

## Setting details

|                                                    |                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>                     | EY243114                                                                          |
| <b>Local authority</b>                             | Hampshire                                                                         |
| <b>Inspection number</b>                           | 10406156                                                                          |
| <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> | 2 to 4                                                                            |
| <b>Total number of places</b>                      | 26                                                                                |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>                  | 12                                                                                |
| <b>Name of registered person</b>                   | South Wonston Nursery School Ltd                                                  |
| <b>Registered person unique reference number</b>   | RP520939                                                                          |
| <b>Telephone number</b>                            | 07350797128                                                                       |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b>                 | 8 May 2025                                                                        |

## Information about this early years setting

South Wonston Day Nursery registered in 2002 and is located in South Wonston, Hampshire. The nursery is open from Monday to Friday, 8am until 6pm for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery employs four members of staff, who all hold relevant early years qualifications between levels 3 and 6. The nursery offers government funded early education for eligible children.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Kelli Wiseman

## Inspection activities

- The manager talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want children to learn.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- Children told the inspector about their friends and what they like to do when they are at nursery.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation during a group activity.
- The inspector spoke with leaders about the leadership and management of the nursery.
- Parents shared their views of the nursery with the inspector.

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.

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