

Westover Little Stars

Westover Green Community Primary School, Westover Green, BRIDGWATER,
Somerset, TA6 7HB



Inspection date

12 March 2015

Previous inspection date

18 February 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff give children's safety and security high priority. They carry out good risk assessments and deploy themselves effectively. This enables children to make full use of the provision under supervision, while receiving supportive interaction.
- Staff attend regular training to develop their knowledge, which benefits children and enhances their learning. For example, through new, exciting activities, children of all ages gain a strong awareness of letters and sounds.
- Staff teach children good language and communication skills, as well as enabling them to be independent and confident in other key areas of development. This prepares them well for school.
- Children make good progress because staff get to know them well, make regular observations and plan effectively for their individual learning needs.
- Staff have good partnerships with parents, outside agencies and other early years providers. This ensures a consistent approach to children's care and development.
- Children arrive happy and separate from their carers, eager to take part in the activities. Staff meet children's physical and emotional needs effectively, which promotes their well-being.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always provide exciting, accessible areas to engage children fully in their imaginative role play indoors and outdoors.
- Staff sometimes miss opportunities to encourage children to have a go at solving problems for themselves, to think of solutions and find out if they work.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- help children to engage fully in their imaginary play, by improving the organisation of the role play areas indoors and outdoors
- take every opportunity to support children further in persevering with solving problems as they play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation and a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff, children and some parents present on the day of the inspection, as well as taking account of the group's parent survey.
- The inspector checked safeguarding information and the premises.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies, procedures, children's development records, information for parents and planning.

Inspector

Elaine Douglas

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Staff plan a good range of activities that motivate children to learn. For example, children made the planets of the solar system from papier-mâché. As a result, they confidently know that we live on earth and can name some of the other planets, saying they go around the sun. Staff plan lots of opportunities for children to use mathematics in their play and activities. For example, children sort vehicles by their type and colour, count how many items they have in each group and compare sizes. Children enjoy constructing and use their imagination to build, such as making a zoo for animals. However, staff sometimes fix things for children, missing the opportunity to support them in solving problems for themselves.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Staff have good relationships with the children and lead by example, so that children have a good understanding of appropriate behaviour. Parents comment positively on how their children have become more sociable and confident since attending the group. Through good access to resources, staff promote children's physical well-being and good understanding of healthy living. For example, children enjoy exercise outside, have plenty of water to drink, and wash their hands after blowing their nose and disposing of the tissue. Staff use good labelling around the premises, which was raised as a recommendation at the previous inspection and supports children's independence. Many labels are in the different languages children use; this aids their literacy skills and sense of belonging. Overall, staff plan a vibrant environment. However, the role play areas are sometimes a little cluttered and do not provide an area that is always inviting to children.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The provider has a good understanding of their responsibilities to protect and promote children's welfare. All staff attend child protection training so they know how to implement their safeguarding procedures to protect children who may be at risk. The new committee is improving systems to formalise staff supervision and monitor the quality of teaching. Staff review the planning and activities regularly to see if they can make further improvements. They have recently carried out a parent survey, which has resulted in staff providing more small group activities for children. The manager has good systems to monitor children's development, which enable her to identify any gaps in their learning. As a result, staff work effectively with outside agencies and parents to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, or English as an additional language.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY358881
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	835405
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	47
Name of provider	Westover Little Stars Committee
Date of previous inspection	18 February 2011
Telephone number	07890900336 or 01278 422943

Westover Little Stars registered in 2007 at Westover Green Primary School, in Bridgwater, Somerset. The group operates from purpose-built premises and is managed by a parents' committee. It is open each weekday from 8am until 5.30pm, term time only. The manager holds an early years qualification at degree level. In addition, there are eight members of staff. Of these, one member of staff holds an early years qualification at level 4 and five staff hold qualifications at level 3. One member of staff is a qualified teaching assistant and one member of staff is working towards an early years qualification at level 3. The group receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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