

The Star Day Nursery

The Star Childrens Centre, Bath Lane, STOCKTON-ON-TEES, Cleveland, TS18 2DS



Inspection date

8 December 2015

Previous inspection date

27 January 2011

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

- Staff are positive role models. Children are learning to manage their feelings and to be polite and kind to each other. They are encouraged to share, take turns and listen to staff well. Behaviour is good.
- Children are happy and settled in the nursery. They have formed secure attachments with their key person and effective settling-in procedures are in place. This helps to support children's growing confidence and self-esteem.
- Partnerships with parents are effective. Parents are complimentary about the quality of care and learning their children receive. They are kept well informed about their child's learning, care and development, and they contribute to assessments.
- The quality of teaching is good. The well-qualified staff provide children with a wide range of learning activities, across the areas of learning, that helps to motivate them to learn. Children make good progress in their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The management team does not have a highly focused and targeted programme of professional development in place, to ensure the quality of teaching continues to improve.
- Staff do not always make the most of every opportunity to extend children's thinking and problem-solving skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the programme of continuous professional development to support staff to continue to improve their knowledge, understanding and practice, and to ensure the quality of teaching is constantly improving
- make better use of opportunities to develop children's thinking and problem-solving skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Cathryn Clarricoates

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are clear about the procedures to follow should they have any concerns about a child. The management team has established comprehensive recruitment and induction procedures which help to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Systems are in place to ensure that staff notify the manager of any changes in their circumstances. Ongoing supervisions and meetings help staff share ideas and good practice. Staff complete mandatory training regularly, including paediatric first aid. The manager takes into account the views of the staff and parents when considering the quality of the provision and identifying improvements. The management team effectively reviews the observations and assessments of individual children, and groups of children, to help ensure any gaps in their learning are identified and addressed. They work in partnership with other professionals involved in children's learning and care, to help ensure the best outcomes for all children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff collect good quality information from parents to identify children's interests and capabilities, when they first join the nursery. They complete regular observations of children's learning and development and use these well to identify next steps in their learning. Staff provide commentaries and use questioning, during play activities, to support the development of children's good language skills. Children enjoy joining in with familiar refrains from stories and rhymes. Parents are provided with examples of nursery rhymes to practise with their children, and books to read to them, to help continue learning at home. Children delight in exploring a range of sensory and craft activities to express their ideas creatively.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are sensitive to all children's care needs. Children enjoy healthy meals and snacks which meet their individual needs. They have access to outdoor areas daily, for physical exercise and fresh air. Both indoors and outside, resources are organised well. Children freely make independent choices in their play. Children follow good hygiene routines and are supported to take risks safely. Staff praise children's achievements which helps to motivate them to learn. They value the diversity of children within the nursery. There are many celebrations of children's cultural events. Some key words in children's home languages are used by staff and displayed in the environment. Staff have established good links with local primary schools. They understand the importance of working closely with teachers to support children with their future move to school.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. Children who speak English as an additional language are supported well in developing their communication and language skills. Children acquire independence skills which help to prepare them well for the next stage in their learning, including the move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY398099
Local authority	Stockton on Tees
Inspection number	859934
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	61
Number of children on roll	72
Name of provider	4 Children
Date of previous inspection	27 January 2011
Telephone number	01642606737

The Star Day Nursery was registered in 2010. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. All of these hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one with Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. 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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