

Stargazers Nursery

Stargazers Nursery, Unit 8, Sweetlake Business Village, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY3 9EW



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

18 December 2015

1 May 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

- Staff complete comprehensive observations and assessments of the children's learning. This contributes to planning that is precise and accurate, in order to fully enhance all areas of children's learning.
- An effective key-person system is in place. This helps children to settle quickly into the setting and build strong bonds with their key person.
- Children's behaviour is managed very well because all staff use effective behaviour management strategies and clear guidance. Children know and understand the rules and enjoy their time at the setting.
- All children have a positive attitude to being outdoors and being physically active. This contributes to promoting their understanding of a healthy lifestyle.
- Good links exist with other settings and local schools. Staff work successfully with these other providers to ensure continuity of care for all children and to help with the move when the time comes.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make good use of opportunities to build on children's self-care skills through routine experiences.
- Children do not consistently have opportunities to gain a deeper understanding of the wider world in order to reflect on their diversity and increase their knowledge.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage children to gain a better understanding of how self-care skills can contribute to healthy lifestyles
- provide more opportunities for children to learn about, and gain a deeper understanding of, the wider world beyond their own experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching and the impact this had on children's learning, both inside and outside.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held a meeting with the manager of the provision.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of staff and a range of other documentation.

Inspector

Lesley Bott

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Thorough recruitment procedures ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of how to keep children safe. They are well qualified and attend a good variety of training courses. This has a positive impact on the care and teaching children receive. Partnerships with parents are good. Parents are very positive about the nursery and the staff. They feel well informed about their children's progress and how to support their learning at home. Effective systems are in place to monitor the progress children make. The manager reflects closely on the overall quality of the nursery to swiftly raise standards and improve practice. This contributes to all staff having a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are skilful in extending children's learning, particularly in communication and early literacy skills. All children enjoy stories being read to them. Older children engage in changing the ending of a familiar story or replacing rhyming words with others to make the story funny. Babies enjoy taking part in sensory and creative experiences. Staff effectively support them to use their senses as they explore and discover paint. Children use their hands, feet and different brushes to make marks on the paper and themselves. Staff know their key children well and allow them to follow their own interests in their play. Planned and spontaneous observations of the children help staff to effectively organise meaningful activities and experiences. This helps children progress to the next steps in their learning. Children are particularly purposeful and play cooperatively during free-choice activities. They work together to make a marble painting. Children hold the wooden frame and manipulate this to move the marble in the paint to produce the finished product.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff take every opportunity to praise children for good behaviour. Children eagerly look at where their face is on the rocket as they try to achieve the stars at the top each day. Staff are effective in helping children to understand about staying safe. They remind children about using equipment correctly through visual and gentle reminders. Children's physical well-being is well promoted. Staff find out about the care needs of babies and ensure these are well managed within the provision. Children's personal, social and emotional skills are effectively developed. All children join together for mealtimes with staff and enjoy socialising with each other as siblings sit together.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who receive funded early education, are making good progress. Older pre-school children are gaining skills to support them as they prepare to move on to school. Children are confident learners who learn how to communicate to express their feelings and thoughts.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY318145
Local authority	Shropshire
Inspection number	862287
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	60
Name of provider	Natalie Jane Tudor
Date of previous inspection	1 May 2012
Telephone number	01743 248448

Stargazers Nursery was registered in 2006. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including one with level 6. The nursery opens 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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