

Little Stars Day Nursery

58 Woodplumpton Road, Ashton-on-Ribble, Preston, Lancashire, PR2 2LQ



Inspection date

7 January 2016

Previous inspection date

12 July 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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 learning environment is bright, welcoming and thoughtfully presented. Children enjoy playing with a wide selection of good quality, well-organised resources, both indoors and in the extensive outdoor area. Children are highly motivated and explore freely.
- Staff are highly qualified and use their knowledge and skills very well to help children learn and develop. They are supported, through supervision and training opportunities, to enhance the effectiveness of their teaching even further.
- An effective key-person system helps children feel secure, settle quickly and benefit from trusting relationships with staff. All staff are clear about their role in helping children form strong emotional attachments.
- The manager, who is also the registered individual, has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements. Staff have a good understanding of safeguarding and child protection procedures. They effectively protect children and support their growing understanding of how to keep themselves safe and healthy.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents contribute to the assessments and are kept very well informed regarding children's progress. There is a shared approach which helps to ensure that children have their individual needs effectively met.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager has not yet fully evaluated the progress made by different groups of children.
- On occasions, staff do not optimise opportunities to extend children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- evaluate the progress made by different groups of children and use the information gained to ensure that any gaps in their learning are closing quickly
- enhance the quality of teaching to ensure all staff make the most of opportunities to support each child's individual learning even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outside, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children, discussed how practice is evaluated and the nursery's improvement plans.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Jacqueline Midgley

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Policies and procedures are understood and implemented well by all staff. The manager leads the staff team effectively. She ensures that staff have a secure understanding of how to manage and minimise any risks to children. This is achieved through training opportunities, discussions at staff meetings and supervision sessions. Various systems of self-evaluation help to maintain continuous improvement and outcomes for children. Staff are well supported through effective monitoring and professional supervision. The manager monitors practice, sets targets, and strives to continually improve children's experiences. She is beginning to monitor the progress made by different groups of children. Although, she has not yet analysed this information to help to quickly close any emerging gaps in their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make accurate assessments of each child's learning. This information is used very well to inform planning that reflects children's individual interests and styles of learning. Staff support children's critical thinking, communication and language development very well. They encourage children's interest in books and use a wide range of teaching techniques to help children to enhance their literacy skills. Children enjoy predicting what will happen next in the story and articulate their thoughts and feelings well. Older children use descriptive language effectively to elaborate their ideas. In the outdoor learning environment children are very well supported. They run, count, play imaginatively in dens, and delight in enthusiastically jumping in muddy puddles. However, at times some staff do not make the most of opportunities to extend children's learning even further.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Caring and nurturing interactions by staff help children to feel emotionally secure. Children's individual care needs are very well met and their confidence and emotional well-being is effectively supported. Children behave well because the staff calmly and consistently communicate their expectations. During routines, such as clearing up and washing hands before snack time, staff and children sing enthusiastically about their experiences. Children are relaxed, happy, kind to each other and eagerly participate. Their independence skills are fostered well. This helps them to develop confidence in carrying out simple tasks for themselves. Children enjoy plenty of opportunities for outdoor play, which contributes to their good health and physical well-being.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident, happy to learn and make good progress in their learning. They enjoy many opportunities which enhance their skills and knowledge in readiness for the next stage in their learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY269734
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1028803
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 - 4
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	69
Name of provider	Joanne Louise Farnworth
Date of previous inspection	12 July 2013
Telephone number	01772 768 687

Little Stars Day Nursery was registered in 2003. The nursery employs 14 members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications between level 3 and level 5. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 6.45am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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