

Little Stars Day Nursery

Monkgate, York, YO31 7PB



Inspection date 19 January 2016
Previous inspection date 27 June 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 setting is led and managed very well. The ambitious manager has the full support of the committee, who is fully committed to the setting's ongoing improvement. Parents and children also contribute to the setting's self-reflection, and actions taken to address weaknesses are highly effective.
- Partnership working with other professionals and local settings are very well established. The manager uses these sessions to reflect on current initiatives and introduce improvements that contribute to high-quality early years practice.
- Teaching is good. Staff provide an environment which is highly stimulating and welcoming for all children. Children are fully engaged in a wide range of activities, both indoors and outdoors. This meets their current needs and interests and helps them to make good progress.
- The setting is well organised. Routines are central to practice and fully promote children's sense of security and well-being.
- Children have lots of opportunity to be physically active. They enjoy climbing, balancing and negotiating spaces as they play with their friends.
- Parents are effectively encouraged to be active in their children's learning. Staff ask them to provide lots of information, which they use to establish what children already know and can do when they start in the setting.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff do not provide the best possible opportunities to fully promote children's home language.
- Sometimes staff miss opportunities to develop children's interest and skills in writing.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase the opportunities children have to develop their home language within their play and learning
- make the most of opportunities to further develop children's interest and skills in writing.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, 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.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as children's learning files and evidence of the suitability of committee members and staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jill Roberts

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Policies and procedures are robust and follow guidelines of the Local Safeguarding Children Board. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Systems for the safe recruitment of staff are embedded. Staff are well qualified in their roles and the monitoring of their ongoing suitability is regularly reviewed. Staff have plenty of opportunities to discuss any concerns they may have, during their supervision meetings with the manager. Staff access essential training to ensure that they keep their skills up to date. The manager uses the knowledge and understanding she has gained from her recent studies to develop the overall quality of the provision.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are happy and eagerly join in with a wide range of activities. Children enjoy building an assault course outside. They are confident as they climb through crates and walk across the balance beam. Children ask adults for help when they need it and take turns and share resources. Staff use observations well to accurately assess children's progress and plan activities that are appropriate to their age and stage of development. Staff keep parents well informed about their children's progress and development so that they can continue to support learning at home. All children are progressing well, including disabled children and those with special educational needs. Staff are quick to identify areas where individual children's learning is slower than others and put targeted plans in place. Staff provide additional activities to support progress in areas where gaps in learning have been identified. Children's early literacy skills are encouraged effectively. Books are provided in each area of the nursery and children enjoy adult-led story sessions. Children hear and identify sounds in words and communicate freely about their home and families as they take make cards for special people.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff have created a warm and caring environment. Relationships are very well established. The key-person role is clearly defined and parents are confident to approach staff to ensure their children's well-being is met. Staff provide a well-equipped environment which fully promotes children's developing independence. Risk assessments are regularly reviewed to ensure that the environment and all activities are safe and suitable. Children enjoy healthy and nutritious meals, snacks and drinks with their friends. Adults are good role models and set high expectations for behaviour. They encourage children to serve themselves and use good manners. Children apply their learning well and are cooperative and eager to help. Staff give children positive praise and encouragement, which motivates and enthuses them in their learning.

Outcomes for children are good

Tracking and monitoring of children's progress and development is effective. All children are progressing well towards the early learning goals. Children are keen and eager to learn and are gaining the skills they need for the next stage in their learning, including the move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY377455
Local authority	York
Inspection number	1028559
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	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	34
Name of provider	Little Stars Day Nursery Committee
Date of previous inspection	27 June 2013
Telephone number	01904 675 791

Little Stars Day Nursery was registered in 2010. The nursery employs five members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 3 to level 7, including the manager who has Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round except bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. The nursery supports children who speak English as an additional language, disabled children and those with educational needs.

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