

Little Stars Nursery - Stonehouse

25 Manor Street, Plymouth, PL1 1TL



Inspection date

4 February 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision

This inspection:

Good

2

Previous inspection:

Not applicable

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 manager is enthusiastic and has a strong drive to develop the nursery. Together with the staff, she uses effective self-evaluation to identify areas to improve to benefit the children and families who attend.
- Staff keep parents well informed about their children's achievements. They work well together in effective partnership to ensure children's learning is consistent between home and the nursery.
- Staff promote children's learning well during daily routines and activities. Children make good progress and learn the key skills essential for moving on to school.
- The manager and staff provide a nurturing environment full of interesting activities, helping children to stay motivated and enjoy their learning.
- The kind and caring staff get to know children well. They successfully promote children's emotional well-being and help them become confident learners.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Overall, staff receive good support from the manager in their professional development. However, systems are not fully successful to encourage them to share good practice and strengthen staff's teaching skills even further.
- There are fewer opportunities for children to develop their early reading skills further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the support staff receive to help them extend their teaching skills even further
- extend opportunities for children to develop their early reading skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including staff suitability and children's assessment records.
- The inspector spoke to parents, staff and children at appropriate times of the day.

Inspector

Margaret Baird

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff understand and implement the nursery's policies and procedures well to help them ensure children are safe and secure. They are clear about what to do if they have any child protection concerns. The manager and staff keep their expertise and skills up to date, for example, by attending training on supporting children with their communication and language skills. Children benefit from the staff's improved knowledge and understanding, and progress well in their language development. The manager and staff monitor the children's progress carefully to identify and close any gaps in their learning and development. Partnership working with outside agencies is effective to provide consistent support for children who need additional help. Good links with local schools help the staff team to prepare children well for future learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding of how children learn and they assess children's individual development well. They plan activities effectively to move children forward to the next stage of learning. Staff encourage children's speech development well. They support younger children by repeating what they say, extending their sentences and teaching them new words. Staff are quick to recognise children's achievements and praise their efforts, promoting children's confidence and self-esteem. The manager and staff support children who are learning English as an additional language well. Children have good opportunities to learn about other cultures and develop a secure understanding of different traditions.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The enthusiastic and friendly staff successfully encourage children to take part in activities with confidence. They positively teach children how to share and cooperate with others. For example, they talk about the 'golden rules', encouraging children to use good manners, respect each other's views and be considerate towards others. Children have good opportunities to develop their physical skills inside and outside. For example, younger children enjoy climbing and balancing, promoting their coordination and physical development. Children enjoy healthy snacks and develop independence by, for example, learning to wash up their own dishes when they have finished. They follow good hygiene routines and become aware of following positive safe and healthy practices.

Outcomes for children are good

All children progress well and gain secure skills ready for school. They are self-assured and happy in this stimulating environment, developing good confidence and independence for future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY477861
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	979231
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	33
Number of children on roll	50
Name of provider	KCP Keystone CIC
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01752 223181

Little Stars Nursery re-registered in 2014. It operates from the Stonehouse area of Plymouth. The nursery is open each weekday from 9am until 5pm for 50 weeks of the year. It receives funding for early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are seven members of staff; of these, three hold an early years qualification at level 3, two have a qualification at level 2 and one is unqualified. The manager holds a degree in early years education.

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