

Inspection date

Previous inspection date

13 April 2016

2 May 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		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The manager fully understands the benefits of self-evaluation and the importance of obtaining views and opinions from others to support this process. The actions and recommendations raised at the last inspection have been successfully addressed.
- Staff are well qualified, which means they have a good understanding of how to implement the statutory requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They effectively use their skills and knowledge to provide children with a wide range of fun and interesting activities.
- Children have a good sense of belonging in their surroundings. Staff actively encourage them to make their own choices and decisions, which contributes to children feeling valued and respected.
- Staff share relevant information with teachers, including current themes and topics, to enable them to complement children's learning. This means children gain the necessary skills needed to support their learning and development at school.
- Children's behaviour is good because they know what is expected of them and are fully aware of the boundaries. They respond well to clear guidance and instructions from staff.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager has not yet fully developed effective systems to enable staff to reflect on their daily practice and to share ideas and suggestions.
- Staff do not always make effective use of daily routines to increase children's awareness of healthy eating and good hygiene practices.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance performance management systems so staff have more opportunities to be reflective and to share best practice
- maximise opportunities for children to develop their understanding of the importance of good health and hygiene.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the setting accessed by children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed play and learning opportunities for children and spoke to staff members in the setting.
- The inspector carried out an interview with the manager, and looked at and discussed a range of policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children, the provider's self-evaluation form and improvement plan.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, parents and carers spoken to on the day of inspection.

Inspector

Rachel Enright

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a good understanding of child protection and effectively implement a range of written policies and procedures. Children's welfare is fully protected as staff ensure they are cared for in a safe and secure environment. Visual checks on the premises are regularly completed by staff to enable them to identify and minimise any potential risks or hazards. In addition, parents and carers are required to use a password and security question system when collecting their children from the setting. The manager supports staff to further their professional development and encourages them to complete training courses and obtain higher-level qualifications. In addition, staff communicate as a team on a daily basis before and after the session, which allows them to discuss the individual requirements of all children and to talk about any issues or concerns.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff interact well with children. They successfully promote children's communication and language skills as they use good questioning techniques and encourage children to talk about their day at school with their friends. Children have access to a cosy area, where they can rest and relax. This supports children's personal, social and emotional development, and enables them to recognise and manage their own needs. Staff provide children with opportunities to be creative and to express their own ideas. Children show engagement and motivation when they use a selection of resources to make colourful paintings, linked to their recent school topic of the Lion King. Staff effectively promote children's understanding of the world and support them to develop their technology skills. Children show confidence as they use the computer, mouse and keyboard to access a variety of educational programmes and games. Staff have established good partnerships with parents and keep them well informed about the activities children participate in. Parents are very happy with the service provided and comment that staff are friendly and approachable.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children of all ages play well together and are kind and respectful. Older children offer support and guidance to younger children when required. Staff create a fun and relaxed environment for children, which contributes to their emotional well-being. This helps children to build up positive and secure relationships with staff and their peers. Children are clearly familiar with the daily routines and show good levels of independence. Staff encourage children to be responsible for completing small tasks, such as buttering their own bread and cutting up their own fruit and vegetables during snack time. Children have regular opportunities to participate in physical play as they use the outdoor area and sports hall. This enables them to be active, energetic and to take suitable risks throughout their activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY438888
Local authority	Middlesbrough
Inspection number	1041493
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	4 - 11
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	40
Name of provider	Daniel Wilson
Date of previous inspection	2 May 2013
Telephone number	01642 319918

Little Stars was registered in 2011. The setting employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including two staff members who hold a qualification at level 6. The setting opens Monday to Friday, from 7.45am until 9am and from 3.15pm until 5.45pm, during school term time.

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