

Little Stars at Huncoat

Huncoat Primary School, Lynwood Road, Accrington, Lancashire, BB5 6LR



Inspection date	13 October 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

- Leaders and managers display a strong drive for continuous improvement. They are fully aware of the strengths and weakness of the setting and have in place targeted plans to develop and improve the quality of the provision.
- Staff know children well and form strong attachments with them. Children are very settled, secure and seek staff out to support them in play. This helps to develop children's confidence and supports their emotional well-being.
- Observation, assessment and tracking of children's progress are good. Staff use this good quality information to plan for children's future learning and to seek external support when necessary.
- Staff skilfully promote children's speaking and listening skills, behaviour and social skills. Children make good progress across all areas of learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The system for sharing information and involving parents fully in their child's learning is less well embedded to make closer links with home and to establish what children do outside of the setting.
- On occasions, younger children are not able to participate fully in large-group activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the system for sharing information with and including parents more effectively in their child's learning and development to help make stronger links with home
- review the planning for and organisation of some large-group activities, to take into consideration the age ranges and abilities so all children benefit from the best possible teaching and learning opportunities during these activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector undertook a tour of the premises.
- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching in the playroom and outdoors.
- The inspector sampled children's assessment records, planning documentation and a range of other records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children, the provider's self-evaluation and improvement plans.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, staff and parents spoken to on the day of inspection.

Inspector

Janet Singleton

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are very secure in the action to take to protect children and keep them safe. Training in child protection is undertaken with regular updates taking place. Monitoring of children's progress is thorough. This helps to ensure children's individual needs are planned for and gaps in children's learning are identified and managed. Staff are qualified and use their good skills in teaching to support children's learning across all areas of their development. Supervision sessions and staff training contributes to the ongoing focus to improve the already good teaching. Staff work very well with external agencies to support children's development. The setting is secure and good quality risk assessments are completed to help to keep children safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is good. Staff use their knowledge of children to plan effectively for their unique needs. Children attending are all very young and staff sensitively help to develop their thinking and concentration skills. Staff monitor how children demonstrate the characteristics of effective learning and use the good quality information obtained to challenge them. Younger children enjoy exploring the water and sand play supporting their physical skills, and hand-to-eye coordination. Children delight in filling and emptying containers as they play, helping develop their understanding of mathematics. Older children are able to remain on task; they excitedly make shapes with the malleable material and sit looking at books. Overall, parents speak well of staff and of the care and education their children receive.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff work well with parents to support children's care needs. Younger children are helped to understand rules and enjoy tidying up at snack time. Older children help prepare the snack and are learning to manage calculated risks as they use safety knives for cutting up fruit. Children are beginning to settle in the setting and staff support them well. Staff make good use of praise and explain the expectations to children. This contributes to their developing confidence and sense of belonging. Children have planned opportunities to be active and explore physical play as they use the attached schools well-planned outdoor adventure area. Indoors, children make choices from the many activities and resources available to support their learning and development. Children learn to follow good hygiene routines and develop an understanding of a healthy lifestyle.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress in their learning and development. Younger children are beginning to understand boundaries and respond well to staff praise. Older children behave well. Children are developing those skills necessary for their future learning and eventual move to school. They are developing a broad range of skills and are becoming confident and active learners. For those children whose starting points are lower, assessment shows they are making good progress with gaps in their attainment being narrowed.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY490169
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1017218
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 3
Total number of places	15
Number of children on roll	11
Name of registered person	Sure Start Hyndburn
Registered person unique reference number	RP523296
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01254 357988

Little Stars at Huncoat was registered in 2015. It is managed by Sure Start, Hyndburn and is based at Huncoat Primary School. The setting employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. There is support from the groups early years professional. The setting opens from Monday to Friday, term time only, with sessions from 1pm until 4pm. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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