Little Stars Pre-School

14 Station Road, Earl Shilton, LEICESTER, LE9 7GA



Inspection date	25 November 2016
Previous inspection date	9 November 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and asses	sment	Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children engage in a wide range of learning opportunities that stimulates their natural curiosity to learn. They make informed choices with regard to their play and are actively involved in tidying toys away when they have finished playing with them.
- Clear relationships have formed between staff, children and their peers. Time is spent settling children into the pre-school at the start of their placement. Daily communication keeps parents informed of their child's day.
- Children enjoy being active. They develop their physical skills and agility and enjoy jumping and rolling on large gym mats.
- Staff maintain a safe environment where potential risks have been identified and action taken to minimise them. Staff remind children about their own safety. For example, children are encouraged to hold the handrail as they go up and down the stairs and take care to listen and look for traffic when crossing the road while out in the community.
- Children behave well. Staff are good role models and build children's confidence and self-esteem through praise and encouragement. Children are reminded to be kind to their friends and they develop their skills of negotiation as they take turns and share the toys.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Opportunities for children to celebrate their home language within the pre-school are still evolving.
- Staff do not consistently gather initial information from parents at the start of their child's placement about what their child can already do.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to celebrate their home language within the preschool
- extend the range of initial information gained from parents about what children already know and can do, in order to plan more precisely for the next steps in their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in all of the play areas and conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager of the provision. She spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection when appropriate.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment and planning documentation, the setting's risk assessment and safety records.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working within the setting. She also discussed the provider's self-evaluation and looked at a range of documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day. She read a number of comments in questionnaires obtained by the manager.

Inspector

Tracey Boland

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are alert to the safety and welfare of all children and their families. They are fully aware of the process to follow if concerned about a child in their care. Clear processes are in place for the recruitment of new staff. Suitability checks are completed to ensure that all adults are safe to care for children. The manager monitors the educational programmes. Regular supervision, appraisals and the use of peer observations are used to reflect on practice and identify professional development opportunities. Staff value the views of the parents. These, alongside their own self-evaluation, are used to continually develop the service. Parents speak positively about the care and the learning opportunities provided for their children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff form close relationships with children. They observe and assess children involved in a variety of activities and use the information to identify the next steps in their learning, in order for them to make progress. Activities and resources capture children's interest. Children show confidence in the routines of the day. The make choices and involve staff in their play. Staff encourage children's language development. They ask questions and use lots of repetition of words, enabling children to build on what they know. Children delight in exploring different textures. For example, they feel different shells in the sand and look for conkers hidden in leaves and soil. Children confidently identify the days of the week at circle time, recognise the numbers that reflect the date and talk about the changing weather.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enter the pre-school happily and separate well from their parents and carers. Staff greet them all individually and listen to the news that children have to tell them. Children are well supported as they begin to understand their own feelings and behaviours. They are encouraged to share and take turns as they play. Children enthusiastically join in during music and movement activities. They listen to, and join in with, familiar songs and move their bodies in different ways and in time to the music. Children learn about their own safety both inside and when outside. Children enjoy their time outdoors. They quickly identify the different colours of the leaves and the flowers they see when walking in the local area. Children enjoy exploring woodland areas, looking for different insects that live there. Staff support children's interest and talk to them about the creatures that they find.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress given their starting points. They develop their independence skills in everyday routines, including their personal care. Children enjoy being active. They spend time outdoors in the community visiting local shops and enjoy walks and talking about the changes that they can see due to the changing seasons. Children develop good skills in readiness for the move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY398536

Local authority Leicestershire

Inspection number 1059853

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 2 - 5

Total number of places 26

Number of children on roll 28

Name of registered person Lynsey Alisson Allen

Registered person unique

reference number

RP908783

Date of previous inspection 9 November 2012

Telephone number 07728909267

Little Stars Pre-School was registered in 2009. The pre-school employs four members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. The pre-school opens on Monday, Wednesday and Friday during term time. Sessions are from 8.30am until 3.30pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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