

Inspection date	15 December 2016
Previous inspection date	19 July 2013

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 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 and his deputy are ambitious for all children to learn in a stimulating environment and achieve well. They have high expectations and set a clear direction for the nursery's future development. They are strongly supported by the staff team.
- The staff accurately assess children's learning and development needs. They plan stimulating and imaginative activities to engage children's interests and promote curiosity.
- Staff establish good relationships with parents. They keep them well informed about their children's progress. Parents know their children's key person. They appreciate the warm and friendly environment the staff provide.
- Children achieve well and enjoy themselves during their time in the nursery. They acquire the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to succeed in their future education, including starting school.
- The staff help children to develop good social skills. Children learn to cooperate and play and learn together. They are well behaved and learn to follow instructions.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The management team does not yet fully compare the progress made by all groups of children to reduce any differences in their achievement.
- The procedures for staff's professional development are not sharply focused on raising the quality of teaching to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build further on arrangements for comparing the progress made by different groups of children and checking that all groups receive the support they need, to increase the potential for them to achieve at the highest possible levels
- strengthen procedures for staff's professional development and focus more sharply on raising the overall quality of the provision to outstanding.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager. He looked at relevant documentation, such as children's records and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Andrew Clark

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are knowledgeable and trained well in systems to keep children safe and protected from harm. They are vigilant and respond promptly to children's worries or concerns. There are robust recruitment procedures to check that new staff are suitable to work with children. The manager and deputy manager have created an effective team of staff who share their drive for consistent improvement. They gather the views of parents, staff and children to evaluate the quality of provision and plan future developments. Staff make good use of training to develop the curriculum and improve assessment and planning, for example.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff accurately assess children's achievement. They plan well together to help children reach the next steps in their learning. Staff create engaging and motivating learning activities. For example, children learn about the natural world by observing insects under a magnifying glass and exploring their habitats. Staff help children to use their imagination and to follow their interests. They encourage children to persevere and to try hard. For example, children concentrate on constructing towers with their blocks and take care not to knock them down. Staff help children to develop their listening and early reading skills. They interact well with all groups of children. They ask thoughtful questions which help children to think and to express their own ideas.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are polite and friendly. They show consideration and thoughtfulness towards others. They learn to take their turn and cooperate with each other. For example, they wait patiently for their turn when they play pass the parcel at their Christmas party and celebrate when their friends win a prize. There are good procedures to help children make a smooth start to their time in nursery. Children soon grow in confidence and security. Staff promote children's knowledge and understanding of healthy lifestyles and good hygiene procedures. They help them to make healthy choices and to try new food. Staff help children to be tolerant towards those who hold different ideas and beliefs to their own. For example, they celebrate a wide range of religious and cultural festivals in their role play activities.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their individual starting points in all areas of their learning. They develop good independent skills to support their future learning. For example, they choose what they would like to play with and willingly try new activities. They enjoy listening to stories and rhymes and follow the plot well. They anticipate what happens will happen next and express their ideas clearly. Children make good progress in developing mathematical skills. They sort pictures by their shape and recognise circles, triangles and squares, for example. Children sing a number of Christmas songs tunefully and confidently.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY443701
Local authority	Wakefield
Inspection number	1065874
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	50
Name of registered person	Mark Philip Wright
Registered person unique reference number	RP514454
Date of previous inspection	19 July 2013
Telephone number	01924220163

Little Stars was registered in 2012. The nursery employs six staff members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above, including one at level 4 and one with qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, apart from one week at Christmas. Sessions are from 8am until 4pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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