

Shining Stars Playschool Blaby

Blaby Methodist Church, Winchester Road, Leicester, LE8 4HL



Inspection date

20 January 2017

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 management team is hard working and dedicated. They have a clear action plan in mind for the future development of the playschool.
- The playschool has a friendly and welcoming atmosphere for children and their families. Children separate happily from their parents and carers, entering swiftly into their play, chattering with their friends.
- Staff think carefully about the activities and resources they provide for children on a daily basis. They take into account children's interests, needs and abilities to create purposeful play experiences for each child.
- Staff place a strong emphasis on building relationships with parents as soon as children start at the playschool. Parents are pleased with the care their children receive and receive regular updates about their learning.
- Children make good progress at the playschool. Their personal, social and emotional development are particularly well supported. Parents report that their children become much more confident and outgoing as a result of their time spent at playschool.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Planned group activities are not always organised well enough to make sure that all children are highly engaged and able to fully concentrate.
- The monitoring of children's progress is not highly effective in identifying if individual and groups of children are making best possible progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of planned group activities to ensure that children's concentration and engagement are promoted to the highest levels
- enhance how children's progress is monitored in order to have a clearer overview of the progress that all children, including groups of children, are making.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the playschool manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the playschool management team. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playschool.
- The inspector spoke to one parent during the inspection and took account of her views.

Inspector

Josie Mapes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team leads a close-knit team of well qualified and experienced staff. Supervisions and appraisals are used to support the continued development of staff. Staff receive regular training opportunities and are well supported in their roles. This benefits the quality of teaching within the playschool. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff understand the signs and symptoms of abuse. They know who to contact if they have concerns about the welfare of a child. The management team has secure procedures in place for the safe recruitment of staff. A range of well written policies and procedures underpins good practice at the playschool and is shared with parents.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a broad range of challenging and interesting activities for children. The play areas are well organised. Children confidently explore and help themselves to resources. Staff interact well with children. They understand how to encourage and support children's learning. For instance, they act as customers when children pretend to be opticians, fostering their imaginary play. Staff skilfully extend children's play even further. They ask children to compare the different sizes of glasses available, then encourage them to use simple mathematical equations as they add up purchases on a till. Staff regularly observe and assess children's progress. They use this information to plan challenging experiences to support children's next steps in learning. Staff regularly share information about children's learning and development with parents.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are naturally warm and friendly towards children. Children feel valued and respected. As a result, they make good progress in their social and emotional development. Children are well mannered and very polite. They behave well and learn to share resources and to take turns. Children feel emotionally secure in the playschool as they approach staff for cuddles and reassurance when they feel upset or tired. Staff teach children the importance of healthy lifestyles. They work in partnership with parents to make sure that the food children bring in their packed lunches is well balanced and nutritious. Children are physically active and enjoy their play outdoors. The playschool has excellent links with local primary schools. They work closely with them to support children's transition to school when the time comes.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning from their starting points. Children who speak English as an additional language are well supported to close any gaps in their communication and language development. Staff encourage children to identify and count objects when reading stories. Children are then encouraged to match the number they have counted to the numeral in the book. This fun, interactive story time session not only promotes children's enjoyment of books but also provides them with opportunities to develop their early mathematics skills. Children develop a wide range of skills which supports them to be ready for school. They listen to instructions, contribute their ideas and concentrate well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY493316
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	1026338
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 - 4
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	47
Name of registered person	Shining Stars Playschool Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP534875
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07970 072436

Shining Stars Playschool Blaby was initially registered in 2006. The playschool employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The playschool opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 9am until midday, Monday to Friday and 9am until 3pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The playschool provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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