

Little Stars Willow Pit Lane

The Cottage, Willow Pit Lane, Hilton, DERBY, DE65 5FN



Inspection date	9 March 2017
Previous inspection date	4 April 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 staff work closely as a team. They use self-evaluation systems to help identify strengths and areas for further development. They have addressed the recommendations from the last inspection to help maintain children's good outcomes.
- Children are very happy. They settle well and enjoy their time at the nursery. They feel very safe and secure to play in the warm and welcoming nursery. They form strong bonds with staff, who meet their care needs very well. Babies thrive in a well organised and comfortable baby room.
- Staff regularly assess and monitor children's progress in their learning. They use observations of children's play and tracking systems to monitor their development and identify any gaps in their learning. Staff make effective plans that help children to catch up.
- The manager and staff are good role models for children. Children's behaviour is good and they respond well to the consistent boundaries set. They know to be kind and share with others and they are tolerant and respectful.
- There is very good partnership working with parents. Staff actively involve parents from the outset and gain good information to support a consistent approach to children's care, learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not allow children to actively direct and develop their own learning experiences often enough.
- Not all staff offer older children additional challenge when they readily achieve what is expected, in order to help them make as much progress as possible in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to express their own ideas and thoughts and test these out in their own way
- provide older children with the additional challenge they need to accelerate their learning further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She held discussions with the manager, deputy manager and owners of the nursery.
- The inspector observed the interaction of the staff and children, both inside and outside.
- The inspector carried out two joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector discussed the planning and the assessment of children's progress with key persons and the manager.
- The inspector looked at the evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children. She discussed the nursery's policies, procedures and action plan with the manager and owners.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Janice Hughes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team is very committed to achieving high standards in the nursery. They help staff to develop their professional skills effectively. Staff work well together to share their skills and training to support each other. Supervision and appraisal meetings help the management team to monitor the work of staff. They identify training programmes that have a direct and positive impact on outcomes for children. Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff have a very good understanding of the procedures to follow should they have a concern about a child. There are effective recruitment and induction arrangements to help ensure only suitable staff work with children. The management team establishes strong links with the host school, providing consistent support for children and helping them transfer smoothly on to school. They work closely with other professionals to access relevant information and improve outcomes for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use their qualifications and experience very well to help support children's learning. They know the children well and have a good knowledge of how they learn. The management team makes good use of funding to support all children. Staff plan and provide opportunities and activities that children find exciting and interesting. They model language and support the children to develop their understanding. For example, staff help toddlers to learn what binoculars are used for when they go on their bear hunt. Babies are fascinated and motivated to explore and investigate using their senses. They become thoroughly involved in squeezing the spaghetti and jelly. Staff support children's mathematical development effectively. For example, pre-school children have opportunities to count and learn about more and less as they play parachute games and count the numbers on the dice. Children's creativity and imagination is supported well. For example, staff help children make cakes out of play dough and to decorate them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are confident and demonstrate they are comfortable in their surroundings. They are developing independence as they play. Pre-school children serve themselves at lunchtime and put on their own coats to go outside to play. Staff support children to develop a good understanding of healthy lifestyles. Children enjoy well-balanced meals and snacks and have access to outside play and exercise daily. They follow good hygiene routines, such as washing their hands. Children get a good understanding of diversity and learn about the wider world. For example, they discover cultural events and learn about the beliefs and celebrations of people from backgrounds different to their own.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress given their starting points. They are keen to learn and acquire the skills they need for their future learning and in preparation for school. For example, they listen well and follow instructions. Children are developing good literacy skills. They have a love of books and enjoy looking at the pictures. They are beginning to write. Pre-school children are proud of being able to write their name.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY440984
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	1065832
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	46
Number of children on roll	64
Name of registered person	Little Stars Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP525739
Date of previous inspection	4 April 2013
Telephone number	01283730428

Little Stars Willow Pit Lane was registered in 2012. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round, except for a week between Christmas and New Year and bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.15pm. The nursery receives funding for free early education for two- and three-year-old children. The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one at level 6. Both of the owners are qualified teachers and one has early years professional status.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2017

