

Stars Day Nurseries Ltd t/a Stars Pre-School Dogsthorpe



Little Steps Day Nursery, 100b Central Avenue, PETERBOROUGH, PE1 4LJ

Inspection date	14 March 2017
Previous inspection date	19 March 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff's support and care for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities is superb. Highly effective strategies engage parents and external agencies in supporting children's sustained progress.
- Staff support children's developing communication and language skills exceptionally well. They skilfully assist the younger children with their emerging speech by repeating and introducing new words. Furthermore, staff engage the older children in rich conversations throughout the day.
- Children have excellent opportunities to develop and progress in all areas of their learning. Staff quickly identify areas in which children may be at risk of falling behind and provide outstanding support to help them progress. Additional funding is expertly used to close gaps in children's development and extend their learning.
- Managers are very passionate about their work with children and motivate the staff towards excellence. Staff work closely as a team to implement the ongoing quality improvements that are identified during evaluation of their practice.
- Children have excellent opportunities for exercise and fresh air. They eagerly participate in an exceptional range of games and activities outside. Children count the number of times they skilfully throw the ball. They spontaneously water the plants and they talk about what plants need in order to grow.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to monitor staff closely and support them to reflect on their teaching practices, to maintain and continually improve staff's very high-quality teaching.

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 to staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Beverley Devlin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Leaders and staff have an excellent awareness of their responsibility to protect children's welfare. They continually review and update policies and procedures, using these effectively to manage any concerns. Leaders have rigorous recruitment and induction procedures to help ensure the continued suitability of staff. They target staff's professional development with extensive training opportunities. For example, staff have used new learning to focus on experiences to support children's emotional well-being. Leaders and staff are highly committed to achieving the best possible outcomes for children. They meticulously analyse information about children's achievements and develop intervention plans. Leaders monitor the positive impact these have on children's learning to ensure high levels of achievement for every child.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The well-qualified staff use their excellent teaching skills to enthuse and engage children. They take every opportunity to respond to their interests and extend their learning. Observation, planning and assessment systems are exceptionally rigorous and staff plan activities to challenge and extend children's learning. Children make rapid progress from their starting points. Staff are extremely skilled in promoting children's communication and language development. They expertly use props, repetition, comments and skilfully foster children's listening, understanding, expressive language and new vocabulary. Staff offer children excellent opportunities to discuss their thoughts and ask questions. For example, staff use puppets to support discussions covering emotions and similarities and differences between themselves and other people. The pre-school is full of happy and inquisitive children, keen to explore and highly motivated to learn. Children gain excellent literacy skills, such as learning to recognise their names from a young age.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children settle exceptionally well and are happy and content in this high quality, homely and nurturing environment. Staff use the outdoors very effectively to support children in all areas of learning. Children thoroughly enjoy time spent outdoors in all weathers. They develop healthy lifestyles and strong physical skills. They enjoy managing their own risks, for example, on climbing and balancing equipment. Healthy lifestyles are promoted as children are provided with healthy snacks. Children demonstrate high levels of independence as they serve themselves at snack times and manage their own personal care needs. Parents spoken to on the day of the inspection praised the excellent levels of care provided by the dedicated staff. Children's behaviour is exemplary. Children listen carefully and follow instructions meticulously.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children are extremely well prepared for their next stage in learning, including going to school. They are very confident, motivated and concentrate at an excellent level, in advance of their age and stages of development. Younger children develop a superb understanding of working together to solve mathematical problems.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY455313
Local authority	Peterborough
Inspection number	1066446
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	60
Number of children on roll	85
Name of registered person	Stars Day Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP905087
Date of previous inspection	19 March 2013
Telephone number	01733-554416

Stars Day Nurseries Ltd t/a Stars Pre-School Dogsthorpe was registered in 2012. The pre-school employs 15 members of childcare staff. Of these, 14 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 8.30am until 11.30am and 12.30pm until 3.30pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language and children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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