

Dawnies Little Stars Nursery

The Drill Hall, Cawston Road, Aylsham, Norwich, NR11 6BX



Inspection date

18 May 2017

Previous inspection date

20 January 2014

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 has high expectations for the provision and is committed to the ongoing development of the nursery. She is a reflective practitioner who strives to provide children with high-quality care and education.
- Children of all ages happily play and learn alongside each other. Staff take account of children's different ages and abilities when they plan activities. They ensure each activity is adapted to enable all children to enjoy good quality opportunities to learn.
- Children are confident to express their opinions. Staff listen to children's views when planning the environment. Children feel valued and know that their views are important.
- Children learn how to manage risk and keep themselves safe. They know the rules and boundaries they must follow and understand what they must do to keep themselves and others safe in the nursery.
- Children's personal, social and emotional development is supported well in the nursery. Staff work closely with parents to ensure children's changing needs are effectively met. Children quickly gain in confidence in the safe and supportive environment.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Opportunities for children to practise their early writing skills are not inspiring enough. Children show less interest in those activities and sometimes choose not to join in.
- Children do not have rich learning opportunities to help them to expand their knowledge and understanding about features of the wider world.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more enriching and interesting daily opportunities for children to practise their early writing skills and engage those children who are less keen to participate
- enhance children's understanding of the diverse world in which they live and help them to develop an awareness of similarities and differences in the wider world.

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

Inspector

Julie Meredith-Jenkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager follows robust procedures to ensure concerns about children's welfare are managed effectively to protect them from harm. The manager and staff team work closely together and support each other. They share suggestions and ideas to promote each other's professional development. The manager works closely with parents and other professionals to help those children who require additional support. Children benefit from the manager's knowledge and experience, and interventions are implemented quickly. The manager monitors all children's progress in the nursery. She evaluates this information to identify where changes to the environment or to staff practice are needed to ensure children's continued good progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children eagerly listen to the stories staff read. They excitedly join in, answer questions and complete the rhymes when prompted by staff. Staff follow children's interests and encourage them to retell another familiar story. Children look at a pictorial display which they use as a prompt to recall the story. This promotes children's early reading skills. Children play imaginatively. They pretend to go on an adventure. Staff skilfully enhance their learning and encourage them to further their imagination. Children engage in sustained learning as their story develops. Staff work in partnership with parents. They share information with each other to support children's learning in the nursery and at home. Parents comment how staff go above and beyond what is expected of them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff use imaginative ideas to ensure children know when it is safe to access large play equipment. Children wear a nursery vest over their clothes when they use the equipment and take it off when they have finished. This ensures a limited number of children access the equipment and children learn to wait their turn and to share. Children enjoy playing together. They give instructions and listen to each other to achieve a desired outcome, for example, successfully building a tower with some blocks. Children eat healthily in the nursery. At snack time, staff encourage children to try different healthy cereals. Children serve themselves using a spoon to scoop and a jug to pour.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. Where children enter the nursery behind expected development levels for their age, they are supported well to catch up. Children listen to staff and act on their guidance. They are eager to learn and enjoy their time at the nursery. Additional funding is used effectively to target where it is needed most to secure children's continued progress. Children are prepared well for the next stage in their learning, such as school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY467001
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	1088191
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	48
Name of registered person	Dawnies Little Stars Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP907339
Date of previous inspection	20 January 2014
Telephone number	07547368286

Dawnies Little Stars Nursery registered in 2013. The nursery employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 3pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday and from 9am until midday on Wednesday and Friday. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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