

Little Stars Day Nursery

Long Field Academy, Ambleside Way, MELTON MOWBRAY, Leicestershire, LE13 0BN



Inspection date

6 June 2017

Previous inspection date

7 September 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 have worked exceptionally hard to address the action and recommendations raised at the last inspection. They have welcomed the support of their local authority adviser.
- The manager is a reflective practitioner. She has devised innovative ways to ensure that the views of children, parents and staff are taken into account. This helps her to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the nursery and to set appropriate targets for future development.
- Partnerships with parents are very strong. Parents are kept regularly informed about the progress that their children are making through informal chats and twice yearly progress summaries.
- Staff closely observe children as they play. This helps them to make accurate assessments of children's current developmental stages and to plan appropriate next steps in their learning.
- Children form close attachments to staff. Staff offer parents a flexible settling-in procedure, ensuring that they gain information about children's routines and what they know and can do.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The quality of teaching for the younger children is not yet as high as some of the excellent practice in the pre-school area.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the current arrangements for performance management of staff to drive the quality of teaching to an outstanding level throughout the nursery.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outside, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Ann Lee

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager and staff are committed in their pursuit of providing children with a safe and secure environment in which they can learn and develop. They have taken a positive approach since the previous inspection to improve the practice of the nursery and raise outcomes for children, including those with identified needs. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff have a good understanding of how to manage any concerns they may have over the welfare of a child. Staff recruitment is robust. Staff receive regular supervision meetings. This helps to ensure that they remain suitable to be working with children and identifies future training opportunities. Parents speak highly of the care and learning opportunities that their children receive.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of teaching is good and, on occasions, outstanding. Staff have an in-depth understanding of how children learn. They interact well with children, asking meaningful questions at appropriate times. Children confidently direct their own learning. They recall trips to the seaside as they have fun making waves in puddles after a heavy downpour of rain. Staff use the opportunity to extend children's knowledge, talking to them about how the moon affects the tide and how the wind affects the waves. Children's early mathematical development is continually promoted as they play. For example, during a group singing activity, staff use terminology, such as bigger than and smaller than. Staff plan varied and imaginative activities to support younger children's speaking and listening skills. Children are learning to listen to instructions. They assist with tidying the toys away when they are asked.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The nursery provides a welcoming environment for children. Children are happy and confident and are developing independence skills. They are encouraged to do things for themselves. Resources are freely and easily accessible to children. Children behave very well at the nursery. They learn to share their toys, take turns in their games and use good manners. Children are learning the importance of developing a healthy lifestyle. The wonderful outdoor facilities enable them to have lots of opportunities to be physically active. Children enjoy the nutritious meals and snacks that are provided by the nursery. Nutritional guidance is available to support parents who prefer to provide their own meals for their children.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are making good progress. Staff plan an extensive variety of play experiences, indoors and outside, that motivates and engages children. Children are gaining key skills that will prepare them for the next stage in their education.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY481161
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	1073371
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	0 - 4
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	51
Name of registered person	Laura Jane Sanders
Registered person unique reference number	RP908162
Date of previous inspection	7 September 2016
Telephone number	01664561234

Little Stars Day Nursery registered in 2014. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2, 3, 5 and 6, including two with early years teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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