

Bright Stars Pre-School

Shelley Primary School, Milton Crescent, ONGAR, Essex, CM5 0FF



Inspection date

20 July 2017

Previous inspection date

11 March 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children increasingly show very high levels of confidence in social situations. They develop a positive sense of themselves and their place in the world. Children develop a very good understanding of how to keep themselves safe and manage risks and challenges.
- Staff provide very clear guidance for children about acceptable behaviour. Children's behaviour is excellent. They show very good manners and consistent consideration for others. This results in an environment where children's personal, social and emotional development flourishes.
- The manager and staff carefully reflect on and evaluate the quality of activities and the care given to children. They talk each day with children and parents and also use questionnaires to help drive ongoing improvements.
- The experienced and well-qualified staff team work exceptionally well with colleagues from the host and other local schools. Activities around moving on to school are excellent. Children move with confidence and build on previous learning because staff take time to share their progress records with the receiving teachers.
- The quality of teaching is consistently strong and some aspects are outstanding. Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of how to promote the learning and development of young children and what they can achieve.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff's monitoring of tracking systems is not always as precise as possible in order to promote children's rapid progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector discussed an evaluation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the manager, staff and children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of persons working with children. The inspector discussed with the manager and staff how they reflect on their practice.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through email feedback and discussions during the inspection process.

Inspector

Lynn Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff understand the correct action to take if they are concerned about a child's welfare. They have completed relevant training. This has helped to increase their awareness of children that may be at risk. Risk assessments are regularly conducted to minimise potential hazards, including those posed during activities. Outings are carefully planned to help keep children safe from harm. A wide range of policies and procedures help to promote the smooth running of the setting. Parents speak very highly of the pre-school. A well-established programme of professional development helps all staff to improve their knowledge, understanding and practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The manager and staff observe children to identify their next steps for learning. They take into account children's changing interests through the exemplary communication procedures with parents. Children enjoy a varied and very good quality curriculum that motivates them to engage and learn. They anticipate what happens next and use imagination as they mix spices with freshly squeezed orange juice. Children build on their language for communication. They are gaining the physical, personal, social and emotional skills needed for their eventual move on to school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff have an exceptional and in-depth knowledge of each child and their family. Children's overall welfare is extremely well planned for. Their personal independence is expertly nurtured. Staff plan and organise an outstanding range of activities that support children to increase their physical dexterity and coordination. Children are skilfully and sensitively supported by staff to form secure emotional attachments. They develop a very positive sense of themselves and their place in the world. Children are supervised well and quickly learn how to keep safe and manage risks. For example, they competently cut up fresh vegetables as part of role play. These skills are transferred as they eagerly prepare their own snack. Excellent partnerships with other agencies and parents helps to ensure that any gaps in children's learning are quickly identified and addressed. This helps all groups of children to prepare for continued learning.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress given their starting points and abilities. They thoroughly enjoy operating simple robots. Children use their imagination as they collect materials to create a pretend swimming pool or build dens. They explore using all of their senses, different textures and smells, such as lavender dough and a range of various spices. Older children talk confidently to each other and adults. They use the correct protocols of taking turns when speaking and listening.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY395696
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1088085
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	22
Number of children on roll	54
Name of registered person	Bright Stars Pre-School
Registered person unique reference number	RP529076
Date of previous inspection	11 March 2014
Telephone number	07990671278

Bright Stars Pre-School registered in 2009. The pre-school is open Monday to Friday during school term time only. Sessions are 9am to 3pm. Eight members of childcare staff work directly with the children. Of these six members of staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. One member of staff has qualified teacher status. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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