

Starfish Day Nursery

Starfish Childrens Day Nursery, 2 Delta Business Park, Salterns Lane, Fareham,
Hampshire, PO16 0QS



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

11 September 2017

26 April 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 is well supported by an effective senior management team. They have reflected well on the weaknesses from the previous inspection and worked hard to address them. Staff have significantly improved their practice, raising the standard of care and learning to a good level.
- Staff assess children's development accurately and plan a varied environment that reflects their interests and abilities. They deploy themselves well and help all children to engage in enjoyable play and learning. Children make good progress from their starting points and gain the skills needed for their next stage in learning and for school.
- The manager and staff support children who have special educational needs well. They identify where further support is needed and share good information with parents and other professionals to help meet the children's needs. Children benefit from tailored experiences, such as small-group activities where they learn to share and take turns.
- Staff have greatly improved the way they support children's behaviour. They have introduced effective new ideas, such as using sticker charts to praise children's efforts. Children behave well. They learn to consider how their actions can affect others and understand the age-appropriate expectations of the staff.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff sometimes miss opportunities to challenge children's learning even further and help them to achieve the highest outcomes.
- Staff do not fully support children to develop their own ideas and think creatively.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of staff interactions with children to consistently challenge and extend their learning to the highest levels
- give children more consistent support to help them develop their ideas and think creatively.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practices and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the managers, staff, children and parents.
- The inspector read some of the nursery's documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector sampled children's development information and records.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and discussed children's play, learning and progress.

Inspector

Ben Parsons

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leaders work closely together to evaluate the effectiveness of the nursery and raise standards. They monitor staff practice closely, observing staff and the learning environments to help reflect on practice. Staff receive regular individual and team meetings where the manager shares new ideas, guidance and training. After recent training, staff have developed their understanding of children's emotions and how to help them manage their own feelings. The manager monitors the progress that all children make in their learning, including different groups, such as boys and girls. She works with staff to close any gaps in learning. For example, they created a new 'superhero' area to help boys engage in more early literacy play. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff are well trained and have a thorough up-to-date understanding of how to deal with any child protection concerns. They maintain a safe and secure environment for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff share good information with parents and regularly discuss children's development and interests. They effectively plan activities that motivate children in their learning. For example, pre-school children enjoy exploring a play dough station. They follow a recipe and work together to measure and mix the ingredients, talking about what else they need, such as more water. Staff support children's outdoor learning well. For instance, two-year-old children enjoy making pretend cakes in the mud kitchen. Staff encourage them to count as they add mud and to describe how the mud looks and feels. Staff working with babies give them plenty of opportunities to explore music. Babies happily bang drums and shake maracas as staff sing their favourite nursery rhymes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide children with enjoyable opportunities for physical play and children are very active. They have daily opportunities to explore the well-resourced soft-play room and to exercise outdoors. Children confidently ride scooters, toy cars and bicycles and develop good balance, coordination and strength. Staff are caring, positive and supportive and children form strong bonds with them. They are happy, confident and sociable. For example, children happily work together to build sandcastles, taking turns to add sand and tapping the top of the bucket together.

Outcomes for children are good

Children confidently choose their play from the wide range available and show good independence in their learning. Pre-school children begin to recognise letters and their sounds, and attempt to write their name. They identify shapes easily and enjoy imaginary play. Two-year-old children enjoy building with blocks, creating walls for a 'house'. They know colours well and use speech to express themselves confidently. Babies happily copy what staff say, learning new words, such as 'crunchy' as they explore the texture of cereal. They walk from an early age and show curiosity as they explore electronic toys.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY379569
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	1098218
Type of provision	Full-time 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	100
Number of children on roll	81
Name of registered person	Little Shipmates Group Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP903282
Date of previous inspection	26 April 2017
Telephone number	01329518888

Starfish Day Nursery registered in 2008. It is open each weekday between 7.30am and 6pm, all year through. The nursery operates in Fareham, Hampshire. The provider is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 17 staff, 13 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 2 to level 6.

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