

# Little Stars Pre School Ifield Ltd



Mill Primary School, Ifield Drive, Crawley, West Sussex, RH11 0EL

<b>Inspection date</b>	28 September 2017
Previous inspection date	25 February 2015

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	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

- The pre-school provides children with an exceptional start to their education. All children, including those who need extra help with their learning and those in receipt of funding, make rapid progress.
- Exemplary leadership means that senior staff meticulously monitor the quality of practice and swiftly identify areas they wish to develop further.
- Staff go way beyond their usual duties to offer support to both children and their families. This means any child who may be disadvantaged receives an extensive amount of help and this accelerates the progress they make.
- The dedication, professionalism and devotion of the staff is clear to see in all aspects of their practice. The partnerships they form with health visitors and schools are excellent.
- Many parents described the staff as 'amazing', 'fantastic' and 'brilliant'. One parent stated, 'My child walks into Little Stars every morning with a smile on his face.' Another parent said, 'My children love Little Stars, and so do I!'
- Children thoroughly enjoy their time at pre-school. They arrive with enthusiasm, excitement and anticipation for the day ahead.
- The pre-school provides a highly stimulating environment, inside and outside. Every precaution is taken to minimise any risks and to keep children safe and secure.
- Children's behaviour is exceptional. The outstanding teaching means children are fully engaged and develop a real love of learning.
- Funding is used extremely well to target some children's priority learning needs. For example, external teachers visit to offer an extensive range of extra activities.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider making minor changes to the lunchtime routine to minimise any disruption to children.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the support for children's learning, inside and outside.
- The inspector talked to staff and children at convenient times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out observations with senior staff to evaluate how well leaders reflect on practice and identify ways to improve.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including looking at staff files, records of children's learning and the setting's plans to show how early years funding is used.
- The inspector took account of the written feedback provided from parents and carers for the inspection.

### Inspector

Jo Caswell, Her Majesty's Inspector

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Senior leaders consistently strive to deliver the highest standards. They recognise very minor changes are needed to modify the lunchtime routine. Staff benefit from extensive training to improve their practice. Safeguarding is effective. The safety and welfare of children are paramount and underpin the pre-school's ethos in protecting children and giving them the best possible start in life. Meticulous planning and assessment, combined with incisive monitoring, mean any gaps in children's learning close rapidly.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Teaching is innovative, creative and inspiring. Even the youngest two-year-olds, the children who speak English as an additional language and those who have special educational needs are captivated by the activities. Staff make learning enjoyable. For example, children thoroughly enjoy playing in the 'Little Stars Farm Yard' which includes a real hay bale to make the play authentic. Boys make particularly rapid progress, especially in their literacy development. They develop a love of writing and consistently use pens, paper and drawing materials as part of their play. The promotion of children's mathematical development is exceptional. Children spontaneously count and make simple calculations in everyday activities. For example, they excitedly count and sort the 'treasure' they have found in the 'digging area'.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children develop kindness and respect for others. Excellent role modelling from staff reminds children how to be helpful and to show extreme concern for others. There are extensive opportunities for children to learn about how other people live and to celebrate differences. For example, the pre-school has made links with a local care home and residents have visited and spent time with the children. Staff noted how well children showed compassion for others. Children benefit from extremely close relationships with the staff. They approach staff happily for comfort and reassurance. Personalised care routines, such as potty training and nappy changing, enable children to benefit from one-to-one support. One child happily went with staff to have a nappy change, cheerily saying out loud, 'Off we go!'

### Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children leave the pre-school exceptionally well prepared for starting school. From the youngest age, they develop extremely good listening skills. They follow instructions carefully and speak clearly and fluently. Children are exceptionally independent. They fully understand how to take care of their own needs, such as managing to put on splash-suits without adult help, and make their own decisions and choices. Children have strong self-esteem as staff value every child's unique qualities. The outstanding teaching enables children to become confident learners. They are curious to find out more, persevere with tasks and are keen to explore, irrespective of their age and different abilities. This means their capacity to learn is excellent.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY440138
<b>Local authority</b>	West Sussex
<b>Inspection number</b>	1085963
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	55
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	66
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Little Stars Pre School Ifield Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP904191
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	25 February 2015
<b>Telephone number</b>	07975 752798

Little Stars Pre-School Ifield Ltd registered in 2011. It operates from self-contained premises within the grounds of The Mill Primary Academy in Crawley, West Sussex. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday from 8.45am to 2.45pm, during term time only. Children can attend half-day or full-day sessions. Funding is accepted for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. A team of 12 staff work with the children. Of these, 11 staff are qualified in early years. The manager holds a level 5 qualification and one staff member is currently working towards a degree.

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