

Westover Little Stars Pre-School



Westover Green Community Primary School, Westover Green, BRIDGWATER,
Somerset, TA6 7HB

Inspection date	10 October 2017
Previous inspection date	12 March 2015

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

- Children make good progress in their learning, relative to their starting points. Strong systems of assessment and tracking help the manager to quickly identify and address any gaps in children's learning.
- Staff use settling-in visits well to get to know parents. An effective key-person system ensures that parents receive regular progress reports and information about activities they can do with their children to help prepare for school.
- Children have high self-esteem. They have good relationships with staff, and their confidence and curiosity show that they feel emotionally secure in the setting.
- Staff work closely with parents and with other professionals to make sure children who need additional support receive the help they need to make good progress.
- Self-evaluation is very good. The manager and staff monitor the effectiveness of the provision well to ensure that improvements have a positive impact on children's learning. For example, since updating technology, older children now confidently use computer tablets, helping staff to choose and order groceries online.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently use information from parents about their children's achievements at home to help them target teaching.
- Staff sometimes miss opportunities to encourage children's independence. For instance, they pour drinks and prepare fruit at mealtimes, which children are capable of doing for themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use in the assessment and planning process of information from parents about their children's achievements at home
- extend the encouragement to children to be more independent at mealtimes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a joint observation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector talked to the manager, staff, children and parents.
- The inspector sampled required records, including safeguarding procedures, and talked to staff about how they implement these to help protect children from harm.
- The inspector talked to the manager and staff about their systems for assessing children's progress and how they plan for future learning.

Inspector

Julie Neal

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management committee and manager support staff very well, and encourage them to continue to develop their skills. The manager monitors the effectiveness of staff training by the positive impact new ideas have on outcomes for children. For instance, following training, staff reviewed how they supported children's speech and language development to make this more specific to the needs of individuals and groups of children. They are providing more challenge for older children, who now confidently talk about words such as 'bat' that have more than one meaning. The manager's tracking shows that children who speak English as an additional language are now catching up more quickly. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a thorough understanding of local child protection procedures and how to safeguard children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan a wide range of interesting activities that encourage children to be inquisitive and keen learners. For example, while enjoying singing and making music, staff encouraged younger children to compare the sounds of groups of instruments, such as the tones different bells make. Staff know children's interests well and use their very good communication skills to encourage them to build on what they already know. For example, older children looked at a book about the solar system. Staff encouraged them to look at the position of Earth and Mercury in relation to the sun and to discuss which might be hotter and why. Staff extended this further, bringing in new words, such as 'asteroid', and encouraging children to think about how a satellite gets into space.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour is good. They work well together to achieve common goals, using what they have learned to solve problems together. For example, an object was stuck in one of the pipes children use for water experiments. Children used their mathematical knowledge effectively as they talked about finding something long and thin to prise it out. Children enjoy being active and spending time outdoors. For example, they energetically bounced on the trampoline, and counted each other's bounces. They showed good understanding of how to use this, and other apparatus, safely.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good skills that help to prepare them for the next stage in their learning, including going to school. Younger children enjoy regular activities in small groups, helping them to develop confidence in speaking up in front of others. Older children regularly use books to look up information. For example, to compare the colour of a real elephant and that of one in a favourite story.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY358881
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1093119
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	24
Number of children on roll	29
Name of registered person	Westover Little Stars Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP907892
Date of previous inspection	12 March 2015
Telephone number	07890 900 336 or 01278 422 943

Westover Little Stars Pre-School registered in 2007 at Westover Green Primary School, in Bridgwater, Somerset. The group is managed by a parents' committee. It is open each weekday from 8am until 5.30pm, term time only. The manager holds an early years qualification at level 6. There are eight members of staff. Of these, one member of staff holds an early years qualification at level 4 and all others hold qualifications at level 3. The group receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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