

Little Stars Nursery

The Park Child and Family Centre, Norfolk Grove, Church, Accrington, Lancashire,
BB5 4RY



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

23 November 2017

24 April 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 thrive in this wholly inclusive setting. Excellent attention is given to children's healthcare needs and every effort is made to ensure they feel valued and included.
- Children develop a deep sense of belonging. Staff are particularly sensitive to children's emotional needs and adapt routines accordingly. They continuously offer reassurance and lavish children with praise and encouragement.
- The provider is ambitious and has high expectations of staff. He is supported by a dedicated and passionate management team. Strong leadership contributes to a well-run and efficient nursery where children make good progress.
- Staff have established robust working relationships with parents. They regularly share information about children's progress and invite parents to contribute their ideas to support children's learning. For example, parents are encouraged to complete 'wow' moments of activities children have enjoyed at home. Parents speak very highly of the nursery and the support that they receive.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not gather detailed information from parents when children first start at the nursery about their existing skills and abilities.
- Occasionally, staff do not consider the opportunities that arise to challenge children's learning at the highest level and develop their problem-solving skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gather more detailed information from parents when children first start at the nursery about their existing skills and abilities, to support learning and development from the outset
- maximise opportunities as they arise in children's play to offer challenge at the highest level and to encourage problem-solving skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the area manager, nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector had a tour of the nursery.

Inspector

Karen Cox

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a thorough understanding of their roles and responsibilities in protecting children from harm. The management team coaches and supports staff who are skilled and effective in supporting families. Furthermore, staff are encouraged to attend a wealth of training. For example, training around mathematics for children under the age of two has helped develop practice and has had a positive impact on outcomes for children. Purposeful supervision meetings encourage staff to continuously reflect on their work. Assessment and monitoring of children's progress are accurate and help staff to target teaching and identify where additional support may be needed. Self-evaluation is used effectively to continually improve the provision.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff carry out consistent observations and assessments which accurately identify children's next steps in learning. They offer a rich and varied array of activities which children thoroughly enjoy. Babies enjoy exploring the texture of sand as they watch it fall through their fingers. Toddlers enjoy singing familiar songs and rhymes. They are encouraged by staff to turn the pages as they read their favourite stories. Older children are well supported to develop their mathematical skills. They count as they build towers, recognising taller and shorter, many and few. Children enjoy creating masterpieces with play dough and are encouraged to talk about what they have made. Staff ask questions and use descriptive language and repetition to help children develop their language skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children have an excellent understanding of how to keep themselves safe. As they move to the wonderful outdoor forest area they explain about being safe around cars. Children describe how they must walk and always look where they are going. They recall important rules when they play in the forest. For example, children talk about stinging nettles and the necessity to find dock leaves. They explore the outdoors confidently, splashing in puddles and climbing over logs and tree stumps. Children learn about the importance of healthy eating. They enjoy special cookery sessions with their parents, and their favourite recipes from nursery are shared so they can enjoy them at home. Children demonstrate kindness and concern for others. They work collaboratively together and their behaviour is exemplary.

Outcomes for children are good

Children of all ages, including those in receipt of additional funding, make good progress. Young children enjoy an array of sensory experiences and are encouraged to be inquisitive in their play. Older children listen well and respond to instructions given by staff. They are becoming confident communicators who are able to express their needs and ideas. All children demonstrate good social skills, taking turns and sharing equipment. Children develop the key skills required in preparation for their next stage in learning and for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY278820
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1087924
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	68
Number of children on roll	103
Name of registered person	Adventure Hyndburn Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP523296
Date of previous inspection	24 April 2014
Telephone number	01254 357988

Little Stars Nursery registered in 2004. It is managed by Adventure Hyndburn, a registered charity. The nursery employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, 16 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm.

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