

# Cool Stars

Lowton St. Marys C of E School, Newton Road, Lowton, WARRINGTON  
WA3 1EW



<b>Inspection date</b>	7 September 2018
Previous inspection date	26 September 2016

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Not Applicable	

## Summary of key findings for parents

### The provision is good

- The manager and her team have worked hard to bring about positive changes to the club. All actions and recommendations raised previously have been fully addressed. The manager maintains robust documentation and holds detailed records regarding the suitability of staff.
- Staff work effectively with teaching professionals from the host school. They share observations of children's achievements and work collaboratively in helping children reach their identified targets. Children are encouraged to make contributions to the planning of activities. This helps to ensure that activities complement children's learning in school and reflect their interests and individual needs.
- Children demonstrate good levels of confidence through the wide range of activities and experiences that staff provide. Children say that they thoroughly enjoy their time at the club and look forward to attending.
- Children behave very well. Staff are consistent in their approach, offering gentle reminders to help children understand what is expected of them. Children develop strong friendships and good social skills. Staff encourage children to listen to one another, share and take turns.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- The provider has not yet implemented opportunities for staff to build further on their already good teaching skills.
- Occasionally, during adult-led activities, children are not fully supported in making spontaneous and independent decisions during their play.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the professional development of all staff to focus more precisely on the quality of practice
- promote more opportunities for children to explore and investigate independently and develop their own ideas in their play.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the activities indoors and outdoors and the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector talked to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the club manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the club manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

**Inspector**  
Karen Cox

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The well qualified and experienced staff team is dedicated and passionate about providing good-quality care for children. Robust supervision sessions and observations of practice contribute to the close monitoring of staff performance. Safeguarding is effective. All staff fully understand their role and responsibility in protecting children from harm and have attended training to help develop their knowledge and skills. They are confident in recognising the symptoms of abuse and are clear about the reporting procedures. Successful partnerships between staff and parents have been established. Effective communication helps to ensure that children's individual needs are well met. Parents are extremely complimentary about the club and comment on the friendliness of the staff team. The manager has a clear understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the club and takes into account the views of parents, children and staff when developing plans for improvement.

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

Overall, staff use their knowledge and experience well. They understand how to plan a variety of experiences that helps children become enthused and motivated. Children use a mirror and develop their observational skills as they discuss their facial features. They make comparisons with their friends as they talk about the colour of their eyes and hair. They enjoy creative activities as they paint self-portraits, recalling what they saw in the mirror. Children engage in making 'cup cakes' in the mud kitchen. They mix together ingredients, following written and verbal instructions. Staff demonstrate new skills to children. For example, they are supported to read the numbers on a measuring jug and calculate how much water is needed for the recipe. Children display high levels of perseverance and determination. Staff sit with children and talk about what they are doing, asking questions that encourage their language and thinking skills.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide a warm and welcoming environment. Children arrive happy, excited and quickly settle in their chosen activities. A successful key-person system encourages children to develop secure and trusting bonds with staff. Staff support children's physical development well. They are encouraged to use wheeled toys and navigate the space available to them with ease. Children enjoy playing games with staff and their friends. Together they throw and catch a ball, demonstrating an understanding of the rules of the game and turn taking. Children develop a very good knowledge of the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle. For example, staff encourage them to participate in the 'golden mile'. Children run and try to beat their personal best scores as the school term progresses. Their achievements are displayed which helps to raise children's self-esteem and determination to succeed. Children follow stringent hygiene procedures and develop their self-care skills through daily routines. They pour their own drinks and serve themselves snacks and meals. They show kindness for their friends as they help and support each other and collectively celebrate their achievements. Younger children interact well with the older children who are warm and welcoming as they join together at the end of each session.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY415937
<b>Local authority</b>	Wigan
<b>Inspection number</b>	10056941
<b>Type of provision</b>	Out-of-school day care
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Age range of children</b>	3 - 11
<b>Total number of places</b>	40
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	70
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Cool Stars
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP530086
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	26 September 2016
<b>Telephone number</b>	01942776109

Cool Stars registered in 2010. The setting employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and the manager holds a qualification at level 4. The setting opens from 7.30am to 9am and 3pm to 6pm, Monday to Friday, during term time. During school holidays the setting opens Monday to Friday, from 7.45am to 6pm.

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