

Little Stars Nursery School

Saint Francis Catholic Primary School, Dalby Road, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire LE13 0BP



Inspection date	13 November 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is good

- Staff have very effective procedures in place to meet the individual needs of children in the nursery. They gather important medical information about children's needs from parents. This helps to promote children's safety.
- Staff ask parents about their children's prior learning and interests when they first start. They use this, along with their own observations, to establish children's abilities on entry.
- Staff demonstrate consistently strong teaching skills. They listen to children's views and ask them an extensive range of questions that helps to develop children's communication and language skills.
- Children who speak English as an additional language are supported exceptionally well in their learning, particularly in their communication and language skills. Staff use strategies to help children to develop their understanding, such as sign language and clear, simple words to help children to extend their understanding of English.
- Children are confident, happy and settled in the nursery. They build strong bonds with staff and other children. Staff are caring and praise children for their achievements. This helps to promote children's emotional well-being.
- Staff provide an excellent array of toys and resources indoors and outdoors. This supports children's interests well and helps them to make good progress across all aspects of learning. Children are keen to explore and engage well in activities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Opportunities for older children to develop an awareness of their personal safety when they use the internet are not yet established.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen opportunities for older children to develop their awareness of personal safety when they use the internet.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector
Hayley Ruane

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of signs that may suggest children are at risk of significant harm. Recruitment and vetting procedures are robust. Procedures are in place to check the ongoing suitability of staff. Hazards are minimised and access to the nursery is managed and monitored well. Measures are in place if other people come to collect children. This helps to promote their safety. Staff work well with schools that children move on to. Information is exchanged about children's learning and staff take children for visits to the school. The manager supports staff well in their practice. She helps them to identify ongoing professional development opportunities to maintain consistently strong teaching skills. Self-evaluation is effective. Changes to group activities help staff to adapt their teaching skills to be more directed at children's levels of learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff share information with parents on the electronic system they use to observe and assess children's learning. They give parents ideas and suggestions about how they can continue to support children's learning at home. Staff encourage children to explore and investigate. They ask children to smell and feel the different texture of a mango. Children talk about it being 'soft'. Staff help children to mix ingredients together when they make dough and to learn about quantities. The manager monitors the progress made by individual and groups of children. This helps her to increase opportunities for children to develop their mathematical and literacy skills. Staff encourage children to develop their listening skills and levels of understanding. They ask children to match toy animals to pictures of animals and then to recognise the sounds that animals make.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide plenty of opportunities for children to develop their physical skills. They take children to use the host school's grounds to help them to develop the larger muscles in their bodies. Staff provide children with opportunities to learn about their local community and the lives of other people. They take children to a care home where they join in activities with the elderly. Staff promote children's independence well. Children select resources to promote their interests and staff help them to learn about how to use a knife safely when they cut up fruit. Children are given tasks to complete that help them to have a sense of responsibility.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop the skills they need to be ready for their next stage of learning, including their move on to school. They enjoy spending time outdoors. Children play with different textures, such as foam, water and sand. Indoors, children follow their interests in cars. They use pens on large paper on the floor to make a car track. Children enjoy listening to stories. This helps them to develop their literacy skills. All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress from their starting points in learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY540977
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	10079344
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 10
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	19
Name of registered person	Sanders, Laura Jane
Registered person unique reference number	RP908162
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07858469260

Little Stars Nursery School registered in 2016. The nursery employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, one at level 4, and one at level 6. The manager holds early years teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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