

# Sparkling Stars Montessori & Daycare

31-33 Farriers Way, Borehamwood, Hertfordshire WD6 2TB



<b>Inspection date</b>	6 November 2018
Previous inspection date	3 August 2018

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Inadequate</b>	<b>4</b>
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

## Summary of key findings for parents

### The provision is inadequate

- The management team does not have an accurate view of the strengths and weaknesses of the setting. It has failed to tackle the required improvements swiftly enough.
- The leaders are not aware of all the requirements that they need to meet in order to ensure children are kept safe. The management team has failed to address all of the hazards identified at the previous inspection.
- The management team has not established a successful system to monitor the quality of teaching. This means that children do not receive a consistently good level of education.
- Staff in the baby room spend too much time on routine domestic tasks. This reduces the amount of time spent on meaningful interactions with babies to support their learning.
- Staff do not consistently offer well-planned and challenging activities. As a result, children do not always make the best possible progress in their learning.

### It has the following strengths

- Staff are warm, caring and enthusiastic. They calmly settle crying children and are genuinely interested in what older children say. This supports children's emotional well-being.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

### To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
improve knowledge of health and safety legislation and ensure that the correct reporting procedures are followed	11/12/2018
ensure that the premises are suitable and fit for purpose, with particular reference to the floor in the baby room	11/12/2018
ensure staff are deployed more effectively in the baby room to support the babies' needs and learning	11/12/2018
implement effective support, training and coaching for staff to improve the quality of teaching	11/12/2018
ensure that activities provide challenge, match children's individual learning needs and help support them to make good progress.	29/01/2019

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching, general play and routines during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector talked with the staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of teaching and learning with the manager. She held joint discussions with the management team in relation to observations of the children's play, learning and progress.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working at the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

**Inspector**  
Elke Rockey

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

Despite several visits from Ofsted, the management team has failed to improve the overall organisation and quality of the nursery. The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective. Leaders do not have a clear understanding of all the health and safety legislation they are required to meet. When a child sustained a serious injury in the garden, the management team did not understand or follow the correct reporting procedures and know which agencies to notify or why. The planned programme of refurbishment of the nursery is taking longer than expected and not all areas of flooring have been repaired. A loose metal carpet edging remains in the baby room. This is a hazard to young children crawling on the floor. While the quality of interactions between staff and the older children has improved, the manager does not monitor these well enough to make sure that staff offer consistently good teaching. This means that children do not make good enough progress. Staff have recently attended mandatory first-aid and safeguarding training. They demonstrate an adequate understanding of child protection procedures and know what action to take if their concerns are not taken seriously by the management team. Parents praise the staff and report they are happy with the care staff provide at the nursery.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The quality of teaching is inconsistent. The new procedures to plan for children's learning are not being used effectively. Staff do not always have a clear understanding of how to extend children's learning when planning activities. Staff do not often extend the babies' vocabulary or plan to challenge older children's thinking skills. Some improvements have been made to the quality of observations and assessment. Staff get to know children well. They observe children and use this information appropriately to link to developmental guidance. Staff invite parents to help them identify what children already know and can do. They continue to share what children are learning on a daily basis. Children show their curiosity as they ask about the display for the festival of Diwali. Older children enjoy describing what they are doing as they mould scented clay and they talk about home in the role-play area. When children move rooms, staff pass on important information about their special educational needs and/or disabilities. This supports continuity of care and learning.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Weaknesses in leadership and management mean that children's welfare is compromised. The daily routines in the baby room are not organised effectively. Staff often spend time on day-to-day domestic tasks, such as sweeping the floor. This results in only one member of staff interacting with the majority of the babies. Consequently children's personal development is not met successfully. For example, babies who explore the room are stopped from doing so because staff are not tuned into this exploratory impulse. Staff praise children regularly. This means they behave well. Children enjoy outdoor play on a daily basis. They are able to move their whole bodies using a variety of equipment. Staff are suitably trained in preparing and handling food and are aware of how to support children's individual dietary requirements.

### Outcomes for children require improvement

Most children make steady progress in their learning. Despite the weaknesses in the quality of teaching, they have fun and learn new things as they engage in play. Older children spend time using their imaginations. They make up their own narratives with small-world figures. Toddlers spend time looking at books for pleasure and older children have opportunities to write their names. This supports the emerging literacy skills that are important for the next step in their education.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY415259
<b>Local authority</b>	Hertfordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	10081518
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full 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>	0 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	62
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	44
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Shining Stars Day Nursery Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP903609
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	3 August 2018
<b>Telephone number</b>	07884182777

Sparkling Stars Montessori & Daycare registered in 2010 and is located in Borehamwood, Hertfordshire. The nursery employs 12 members of staff, nine of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Opening times are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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