

Kingsnorth Little Stars

Kingsnorth Village Hall, Church Hill, Ashford, Kent TN23 3EF



Inspection date	21 January 2019
Previous inspection date	11 May 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

- Staff keep parents fully informed and involved in their children's progress. For instance, they regularly encourage parents to add to their children's learning records.
- The manager and staff evaluate their practice together effectively. They hold daily meetings to discuss how well the day's activities motivated children to learn. Staff use their findings to develop their future activity plans and keep children engaged. This supports children to make good progress in their learning.
- Staff establish inspirational relationships with children. Staff get to know them extremely well. Children are incredibly happy and have outstanding levels of self-esteem.
- Staff support children to develop very good communication skills. For example, children are enthusiastic to make up their own stories and share their fantasies with their friends.
- There are good opportunities for children to develop their writing skills to support their future learning. For example, children write their name with confidence.
- Children have good opportunities to develop their imagination skills. They enjoy bringing their ideas alive, such as dressing up as their favourite superhero.
- Staff miss some opportunities to extend children's mathematical skills to support their future learning even further.
- Staff do not make the most out of children's opportunities to explore and investigate the natural world more extensively.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's opportunities to gain more complicated mathematical skills to help prepare them for their eventual move to school even further
- build on children's opportunities to explore and investigate the natural world more extensively.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the staff interacting with children and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed the indoor and outdoor environments.
- The inspector looked at written documentation, including evidence of the suitability of all those working at the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to the manager, children, parents and staff, and considered their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector
Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager closely monitors the quality of care and teaching that staff provide for children. For example, she carries out observations on their practice daily. She provides staff with helpful feedback to support their future performance. Staff are keen to build on their skills and knowledge even further. They attend regular training beneficial to their practice. For instance, they have learned how to ensure that they plan activities to challenge all children's learning. Staff use additional funding effectively to meet children's individual needs. For example, they have purchased more resources to support children's social skills, including a den to encourage small-group activities, such as reading together. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have a good knowledge of the safeguarding procedures to follow to help protect children's safety and welfare and prevent them from harm.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The manager and staff closely monitor and track different groups of children and their individual progress. This enables them to quickly identify any gaps in their development and provide good support to help close them promptly. Staff establish positive partnerships with other early years professionals, such as speech and language experts. For example, they share strategies and ideas to support children's development. This helps to provide children with a good consistent approach to their care and learning experiences. Staff build on children's interests well. For instance, children who role play being a shopkeeper go on to visit the shop and bring their ideas alive.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are inspirational role models. Children are extremely polite and their behaviour is impeccable. Children have outstanding opportunities to challenge their physical abilities, and they competently using gym equipment and stilts with great confidence. Children develop an excellent understanding of healthy lifestyles. For example, they discuss the effects of exercise on their bodies and check heart rates and pulses before and after exercise. Children have outstanding opportunities to learn respect and understanding of other people's similarities and differences. For example, they learn key words in other languages, such as 'hello' in Polish and Nepalese.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress in their learning. They gain good skills to support their future learning. For example, they recognise simple words and letters with confidence. Children have a keen interest in technology and enjoy exploring a wide range of programmable equipment. They have good opportunities to be creative. They explore paint in interesting ways, including by using their feet and vegetables to make their own art creations.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY479948
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10076193
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	43
Name of registered person	Packham, Abigail
Registered person unique reference number	RP902997
Date of previous inspection	11 May 2016
Telephone number	07961074829

Kingsnorth Little Stars registered in 2014. It is located in a village hall in Kingsnorth, in Ashford, Kent. The setting is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 3pm, term time only. It receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The setting employs 10 members of staff, nine of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3 and above. This includes one member of staff who has an early years qualification at level 4.

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