

Little Stars Pre-School

Roughwood Road, Kimberworth, Rotherham, South Yorkshire S61 3HL



Inspection date	7 February 2019
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

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

This provision is inadequate

- The manager does not ensure all staff and students have an up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding concerns. They do not know how to identify effectively a child who may be at risk of harm, or the procedure to follow if an allegation is made against a member of staff. Staff and students do not have up-to-date knowledge of wider child protection matters.
- The quality of teaching is inconsistent. Although staff regularly observe and assess children's learning, this information is not used effectively to plan interesting activities to challenge, motivate and engage children.
- Staff do not consistently manage children's behaviour well. As a result, children are sometimes unclear about the potential consequences of their actions and do not fully understand the boundaries of acceptable behaviour.
- Staff do not consistently work in partnership with other agencies, to help provide all children with the support they need.

It has the following strengths

- Staff praise and encourage children consistently to help support them in feeling confident. Children are happy and settled in the care of staff.
- Parents speak highly of the pre-school. They say that their children are always happy to attend and that communication with staff is good. Staff share some information with parents about their children's achievements and ask parents to share information about what their child is doing at home.

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
take quick and effective action to improve the staff's and students' understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse, and the procedures to be followed should a concern arise about a child	08/03/2019
ensure that all staff and students fully understand the procedure to follow if allegations are made against a staff member	08/03/2019
develop staff's and students' knowledge and understanding of safeguarding matters with regard to the wider issues of child protection, including the 'Prevent' duty to keep children safe from harm	08/03/2019
raise the quality of teaching to focus precisely on the individual needs, interests and stage of development of each child, and use this information to plan challenging experiences that help them to make good progress	08/05/2019
ensure that staff manage children's behaviour consistently and effectively so that all children understand what is and is not acceptable behaviour	08/04/2019
improve partnerships with the other agencies to ensure that all children get the support they need.	08/04/2019

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities 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 pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke with a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector
Ruth Moore

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective. There is a comprehensive safeguarding policy and staff have undertaken safeguarding training. However, staff and students are not aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse to help them to recognise when a child may be at risk. They are not secure about the process that they would follow when reporting a concern about a child. Furthermore, staff and students do not understand the procedures to follow in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff. They do not have up-to-date knowledge of wider child protection matters, such as the 'Prevent' duty guidance. The manager and staff complete risk assessments to ensure the premises are safe. The manager has started to identify strengths and weaknesses within the pre-school. She has devised an action plan and is committed to making improvements to the service provided. The manager and staff monitor children's progress to identify any gaps in children's learning and development. However, they have not made consistent links with other agencies to help all children get the support they need.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The manager monitors staff practice and staff take part in professional development opportunities. However, the quality of teaching is variable. Staff do not use their observations and assessments of children's progress well enough to ensure that planned activities provide children with challenge. Consequently, children lose interest as some activities do not extend their learning to sufficiently stimulate them. Children develop some literacy and mathematical skills. They enjoy looking at books and making marks using magic pen boards. They also learn to count and identify some simple shapes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Children's safety and well-being are compromised due to the staff's poor knowledge of child protection. Furthermore, staff do not consistently manage children's behaviour well or make clear their expectations about what is acceptable behaviour. Therefore, children are not aware of behaviour that is not appropriate. Nevertheless, children develop some social skills. They learn to take turns and share resources. Staff are warm, friendly and know the children well. They find out about children's backgrounds and home lives. Children enjoy opportunities to play and explore outside, making the most of the fresh air and exercise. They relish jumping in muddy puddles and finding animals in water baths.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Weaknesses in teaching, assessment and planning mean that not all children make the best possible progress. However, children are happy, settled and self-assured. They enjoy playing with jelly balls and making pictures using seeds and spaghetti. Children gain some useful skills in readiness for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY540279
Local authority	Rotherham
Inspection number	10089802
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 - 3
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	26
Name of registered person	Little Stars Pre-School Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP540278
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07999863676

Little Stars Pre-School re-registered in 2016. The pre-school employs seven members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 12pm.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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