

Starlings Nursery

Scout Association, York Road, New Barnet, Barnet EN5 1LL



Inspection date	7 February 2019
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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The manager is very professional and enthusiastic. She works tirelessly to provide children with a safe and interesting place to play and learn.
- The manager leads the staff team successfully. She constantly seeks ideas for improvement from staff and parents, to help her develop clear plans that help to maintain consistently good outcomes for children. Self-evaluation is effective.
- Inclusive practice is given high priority. All children are provided with care that is specifically tailored towards their needs. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are sensitively cared for by staff who are knowledgeable about which strategies individual children positively respond to.
- Excellent systems are in place for staff to regularly share information about children's learning and development with parents. Staff help parents to guide children's learning at home in a variety of ways.
- Behaviour management is consistent and staff always consider the development needs of children. Children behave well.
- Sometimes, staff miss opportunities to support children who are less verbal to fully participate in group activities to contribute and join in.
- Occasionally, staff do not make the most of every opportunity to challenge and extend children's learning to help them achieve at the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children who are less verbal to communicate, make requests and share their preferences consistently during group activities
- make the most of all opportunities that arise to extend and challenge children's learning at the highest level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outside. She assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant records, documentation and policies. She also checked evidence of the suitability of staff working in nursery.
- The inspector spoke to staff and held a meeting with the nursery manager.

Inspector

Rizwana Nagoor

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities in keeping children safe, including from extreme views or behaviour. They know how to identify and report any concerns they have about a child's welfare. The manager implements effective coaching and supervision of staff to help improve their knowledge and teaching skills. The manager engages promptly with parents and external agencies to support children with SEND. Excellent partnerships with professionals are forged.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are qualified, knowledgeable and experienced. They carry out regular observations of children during play and use these to identify their next steps in learning. Staff provide a wide range of activities that is of interest to the children and promotes their learning. Children play together cooperatively creating their own imaginative creations. For example, they pretend to make birthday cakes using play dough and enjoy decorating them using glitter and colourful sticks. Staff play alongside the children, describing what they are doing to manipulate the dough into shapes. They use mathematical language to help children learn about size. Staff help children learn to use a variety of tools and to develop good coordination in preparation for early writing. For instance, they encourage children to draw pictures and practise writing their names on whiteboards.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Highly personalised settling-in information and the excellent sharing of ongoing information ensure children settle extremely quickly. Staff are excellent role models who demonstrate polite, patient and friendly behaviour. The excellent layout of the nursery helps to promote even the youngest children's independence and self-esteem to the highest level. Children's excellent physical development is challenged highly effectively. This is evident as they use the exceptionally well-resourced garden each day. Staff support children's understanding of healthy lifestyles extremely well through activities such as discussions about healthy eating and oral health. Staff promote equality and diversity well and children enjoy activities based on cultural festivals.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learn to play well with others. They can share and take turns with minimal support. Children are active learners. They are confident, become engrossed in activities and concentrate for extended periods. For instance, older children particularly enjoy spending time exploring the computer mouse, moving it around to make an action happen in the game they are playing. Younger children enjoy sharing stories with staff and singing familiar songs. Overall, all children, including those in receipt of additional funding, learn a good range of skills that prepare them well for their next stage in learning and the eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY539994
Local authority	Barnet
Inspection number	10089516
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	44
Name of registered person	Starlings Education Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP539993
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	02084419439

Starlings Nursery registered in 2016. It operates from a Scout hall in East Barnet, in the London Borough of Barnet. The nursery operates from Monday to Friday from 8am to 4.30pm term time only. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Seven of them hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for two- and three-year-old children.

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