

Sparkling Stars Montessori & Daycare

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



Inspection date	3 May 2019
Previous inspection date	6 November 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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

This provision is good

- The nursery manager shows a strong commitment to providing high-quality care and learning for children. She has brought about significant improvements since the last inspection. The quality of teaching is now strong and children are making good progress from their starting points.
- Parents report that they are reassured by the improvements to the quality of the nursery in the last six months. They appreciate much better communication from the nursery staff and feel well informed about things their children have been doing and have achieved.
- Staff have undergone recent training in managing behaviour and this has improved them to support children's behaviour in positive ways. Children are well behaved and have developed strong friendships with each other.
- The premises are secure and have undergone some recent improvements to make areas safer and more suitable for children's use.
- Sometimes staff are not well deployed during small-group activities to support children to concentrate and focus fully at these times.
- Staff do not always effectively organise the outdoor area for larger groups of children, which means that sometimes children are not well engaged in their learning while outside.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the deployment of staff while children are involved in small-group activities, to better support children who may find it more difficult to concentrate at these times
- help staff to focus more precisely on supporting children's learning when playing outdoors.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the activities indoors and outdoors and the interactions between staff and children, to gather information about what it is like to be a child at this nursery.
- The inspector talked to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection to gather their views about the nursery.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out two joint observations of practice with the manager of the setting, to assess how the quality of teaching is monitored and improved.

Inspector

Naomi Brown

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager has worked extremely hard to make improvements since the last inspection. She has grown in confidence and is able to demonstrate how she monitors staff and provides clear feedback to drive improvements in the quality of teaching. Safeguarding is effective. All staff, including those who have been recently recruited, know how to identify and refer concerns about children, in line with Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures. Recruitment procedures are well managed to ensure staff are suitable to work with children, which promotes their safety. Staff have good opportunities to attend training. This has helped to improve practice. For example, they have learned how to effectively manage behaviour concerns.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of teaching is good and continuing to improve. The manager spends lots of time in each room demonstrating good teaching to staff and monitoring activities to make sure they meet children's learning needs. Staff provide a broad range of adult-led and child-initiated activities, and these meet children's needs well overall. Children enjoy developing their counting skills, for example as they jump through a line of hoops. Staff encourage them to predict and test what happens when they add and remove a hoop so that children practise simple addition and subtraction. Staff assist babies as they investigate interesting treasure baskets of natural resources, to help them explore different materials and to promote their curiosity.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children show that they feel safe in the nursery. They regularly seek reassurance from adults around them, for example as they climb on a lap for a cuddle or invite their key person to play a game. Babies show interest in staff and each other, giggling with staff as they make music with wooden spoons. Staff are strong role models for children. They show children how to be kind to each other. Older children happily invite their friends into their play and explain their ideas to each other carefully. Children are able to be independent as they manage their own care needs, such as feeding themselves, using cutlery and pouring their own drinks at mealtimes. The safety of areas used by children has been improved since the last inspection to promote their well-being.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress for their age and stage of development from their starting points. This includes children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff understand children's learning needs well. All children enjoy messy play. Babies enjoy exploring their creative skills as they paint with their whole bodies. Older children develop skills to support them in their future learning, including at school. For example, they learn to hold paintbrushes, crayons and pencils and form recognisable letters.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY415259
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10089232
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	62
Number of children on roll	44
Name of registered person	Shining Stars Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP903609
Date of previous inspection	6 November 2018
Telephone number	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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