

Inspection of Little Stars

31 Castleford Road, Normanton, West Yorkshire WF6 2DJ

Inspection date: 11 October 2019

Overall effectiveness	Inadequate
The quality of education	Inadequate
Behaviour and attitudes	Inadequate
Personal development	Inadequate
Leadership and management	Inadequate
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children's safety and welfare cannot be assured due to significant weaknesses in safeguarding. The provider and staff have a poor knowledge and understanding of child protection matters. Furthermore, the first-aid requirements are not maintained. This places children's health, safety and well-being at risk.

Children do not consistently receive the individual support that they need in their learning. This includes children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Staff do not receive the coaching, training and support that they need to fulfil the requirements of their role, even when they have requested this. Consequently, children do not make the progress of which they are capable. For example, staff do not ensure that activities they provide focus precisely enough on what children need to learn next.

Staff build positive relationships and have a kind and caring approach towards children. However, they do not provide consistent expectations for their behaviour. For example, they do not respond promptly to children who become upset during play. This has a negative impact on children's emotional well-being.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The provider does not have suitable arrangements in place that help to ensure the health, safety and welfare of children. He underestimates the importance of the legal requirements and does not ensure that these are continuously met. For example, staff are frequently left on the premises without a named deputy who is trained and can take charge in the manager's absence. The provider does not ensure that there is at least one member of staff on the premises who holds a current paediatric first-aid training certificate.
- The provider does not maintain accurate information and records. This includes documents to verify staff qualifications, safeguarding and paediatric first-aid training. Furthermore, staff do not keep an accurate record of children's attendance. This compromises children's safety because staff could not account for children in the event of an emergency.
- The provider has not implemented effective supervision arrangements. Staff raise concerns about their workload and areas of weakness in their knowledge and skills. However, the provider does not take action to address these. For example, staff recognise that they need to complete safeguarding and first-aid training in order to carry out their roles effectively. They ask for training to help them understand how to support children with SEND, but they do not receive the support, training and guidance that they need.
- The quality of teaching and learning is weak. Staff do not organise the setting effectively to ensure that children are provided with engaging and stimulating

activities and play equipment. Although there is a wide selection of resources available, these are not well matched to children's individual interests and their learning targets. As a result, some children, including those with SEND, do not engage with purposeful play activities. Staff do not always recognise when to intervene, encourage and support children. Children's behaviour becomes disorderly and hinders their learning and emotional development. Nevertheless, children enjoy sharing familiar stories with staff during adult-led activities.

- Partnerships with parents are not effective. Staff do not consistently share key information with parents about children's progress. They do not include parents in developing a consistent approach to making decisions about how to support children's progress.
- Staff attend regular meetings with other professionals involved in children's care. They discuss what level of support children with SEND require. However, they do not implement any actions set effectively. Therefore these children do not consistently receive the individual support that they need at the setting.
- Children learn how to keep their bodies healthy. Staff provide healthy snacks and teach them about the benefits of daily exercise. For example, children observed the changes that occur to their heartbeat and breathing while singing actions songs and moving faster and slower.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The provider and staff do not access the necessary child protection training required for their roles. They are unaware of the roles of appropriate professionals in the local safeguarding children partnership. They do not recognise the signs and symptoms that indicate a child may be at risk of abuse, and do not understand how to report allegations or refer concerns about children's welfare. Staff report that they do not have the confidence to deal with safeguarding matters. As a result, the provider and staff have a significantly limited knowledge and understanding of safeguarding matters, which compromises children's safety and well-being.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action.

We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:

	Due date
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ensure the safeguarding lead practitioner has completed the necessary child protection training course that enables them to identify, understand and respond appropriately to signs of possible abuse	02/12/2019
provide staff with the necessary safeguarding training, to help them identify the signs and symptoms of abuse, and understand how to respond to concerns about a child	02/12/2019
ensure all staff, including leaders, know how to respond to and report allegations made against a member of staff	02/12/2019
ensure that there is always one person on the premises who holds a current paediatric first-aid training certificate	02/12/2019
ensure that there is a named deputy who is suitably trained and capable to take charge in the manager's absence	02/12/2019
ensure that an accurate record of children's attendance is kept	02/12/2019
ensure that records are easily accessible and available. This includes records staff qualifications, paediatric first-aid certificates and safeguarding training	02/12/2019
put appropriate arrangements in place to provide staff with effective supervision and ensure that they receive the coaching, training and support that they need to fulfil the requirements of their role	02/12/2019
ensure that children's behaviour is managed in an appropriate way. In this case by providing children with clear and consistent expectations for their behaviour	02/12/2019

provide parents with key information about children's development and how this is supported in the setting	02/12/2019
ensure that there are suitable arrangements in place to support children with SEND, including effective implementation of any actions set by external professionals.	02/12/2019

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the provider must:

	Due date
organise the setting more effectively and ensure that the provision and play equipment take account of children's individual learning needs and interests, with particular regard to children with SEND.	16/12/2019

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY443701
Local authority	Wakefield
Inspection number	10126366
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	2 to 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	21
Name of registered person	Wright, Mark Philip
Registered person unique reference number	RP514454
Telephone number	01924220163
Date of previous inspection	15 December 2016

Information about this early years setting

Little Stars registered in 2012. The nursery employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, the manager holds qualified teacher status, one member of staff holds a level 4 childcare qualification, and one member of staff holds a level 3 qualification. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round, except for one week at Christmas and on bank holidays. Sessions are from 8am until 4pm. The nursery offers funded early education places for two-, three-, and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jennifer Dove

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a learning walk with the provider and discussed education programmes.
- The inspector held discussions with parents, children and staff at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- A joint evaluation of an activity was completed with staff.
- The inspector reviewed a sample of documents, including policies, procedures and other records regarding health and safety. She reviewed the suitability checks for all adults working on the premises.
- This inspection was carried out following the risk assessment process.

We carried out this inspection 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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