

Inspection of Little Stars Nursery

Warmstar House, Chapel Street, Redruth, Cornwall TR15 2BY

Inspection date: 30 January 2020

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

Personal development

Good

Leadership and management

Good

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are very happy and arrive eager to play and learn. They have built very secure attachments to their key person and other staff. As a result, children have high self-esteem and feel safe and secure. Staff have high expectations of all children and plan a broad curriculum based securely on children's interests and next steps in learning. Children make good progress in their learning and gain many skills in preparation for school. Children engage in messy play and art activities. Staff display their artwork on the wall, which gives them a strong sense of belonging.

Staff work well with external agencies and other professionals. This ensures that children with special educational needs and/or disabilities get the help and support they need. Staff monitor children's progress effectively and plan targeted activities to close any gaps in children's learning promptly. Children thoroughly enjoy singing songs and linking sounds to letters. Even the youngest children join in with the actions enthusiastically. Children benefit from regular fresh air and opportunities to be physically active. They explore activities in the outside area, such as water play, and share stories with staff. They take turns to ride on scooters and enjoy regular outings to the local supermarket to buy healthy snacks to share. They practise their balancing and climbing skills at the park. Children's behaviour is good.

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

- Staff work very well together and evaluate practice effectively, sharing ideas to make continuous improvements to the provision. For example, after reflecting on how the children use the room the manager and staff reorganised it. They now provide children with more defined areas, which has helped them to focus more. These include a book and quiet area, a construction area and an area where children can explore a range of art materials.
- Children thoroughly enjoy listening to stories and sharing books with their friends. Staff successfully engage children's interests as they count the number of legs on the monster in the story or talk about the characters in a book. Children follow instructions well as they tap their feet, kick their legs and wiggle in time to the music. Staff give the children lots of praise and encouragement, which boosts their self-esteem and confidence effectively.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. The manager and staff keep parents well informed about their children's progress. Parents have high praise for the staff and the quality of the provision they provide. Parents comment on the wide range of activities on offer and the confidence their children have gained by attending the setting.
- Staff provide a good balance of adult-led activities and opportunities for children to choose for themselves from the wide range of resources. For example,

children thoroughly enjoy playing with small dinosaur figures and construction blocks, using their voices effectively as they make up stories and play out scenes. However, at times, noise levels are high, which is a distraction for children. As a result, they lose interest and do not concentrate as well as possible during small-group time.

- Children have many opportunities to use their senses to explore. For example, they enjoy playing with cereals and pasta, filling different-sized containers. They play outside with bubbles and use jugs and bottles in water play. Staff interact well with the children and involve themselves in the activities. However, occasionally, they miss opportunities to encourage the children to think about the different sizes of the containers or use the language associated with capacity and volume to extend children's mathematical knowledge even further.
- Staff are excellent role models for the children. They encourage them to take turns and share resources, which the children do well. Staff use skills gained through training to support children's behaviour effectively and children manage behaviour very well for themselves. They have a good understanding of right and wrong and are beginning to understand how their behaviour impacts on others.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff have good knowledge and understanding of child protection and wider safeguarding issues. Staff are fully aware of the whistle-blowing policy and the manager knows what to do in the event of an allegation. They work closely with other agencies responsible for safeguarding and know the reporting procedure if they have any concerns about the welfare of a child in their care. The manager follows robust recruitment and induction procedures to help ensure that only those who are suitable work with children. Staff carry out thorough risk assessments and take effective action to help keep children safe, including when they go on outings.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- consider the organisation of small-group times and monitor the noise levels so that children can concentrate fully and remain engaged for longer periods
- provide more opportunities for older children to compare sizes of different items and begin to use the language associated with capacity and volume to extend their mathematical development even further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY548808
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	10114593
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	2 to 4
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	27
Name of registered person	Manning, Mrs Deborah Anne
Registered person unique reference number	RP548807
Telephone number	07971629282
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Little Stars Nursery, in Redruth, Cornwall, registered in 2017. The provision is open each weekday from 8am to 5.30pm during term time. There are five members of staff, including the manager. All hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 or above.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Michelle Heimsoth

Inspection activities

- The manager showed the inspector around the nursery and explained how they deliver the curriculum.
- The inspector observed the staff's teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- A joint observation was carried out by the inspector and the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took their views into account.
- A meeting was held with the manager and a range of documentation reviewed, including a sample of children's records.

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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