

Inspection of Little Stars Pre-School

Unit A16, Fieldhouse Industrial Estate, Rochdale, Lancashire OL12 0AA

Inspection date: 19 May 2021

Overall effectiveness	Good
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

Friendly staff greet children and their parents at the main entrance. Children part confidently from their parents. Once in the pre-school room, children begin to play with the resources that staff have selected for them. These match their needs and capture their interests. Children come together as a group to sing nursery rhymes and read books. Staff make good use of props, such as small puppets, which effectively encourage the children to join in with the songs and recall the stories. Children demonstrate good attention skills as they play in the construction area together, building towers with foam blocks. They have great fun using the toy hammers to knock out the removeable centres, demonstrating good physical control and coordination skills.

Staff are effectively developing children's understanding of diversity. Children are encouraged to learn about and celebrate different cultures and faiths of their peers. Children have recently been celebrating the festival of Eid and learning about fasting for the month of Ramadan. Parents speak highly of the pre-school, in particular the manager. They praise the manager for the support that she gives the family, as well as commenting on how they feel their children's learning and development has improved since attending the pre-school.

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

- Staff know the children well and have developed secure relationships with them. Staff have a clear focus on promoting children's emotional development and provide lots of age appropriate resources and activities to encourage the children to express themselves. For example, children enjoy using the large puppets in the role-play area to enter into imaginative play.
- Children have access to books and stories throughout the session. Children come together as a group and enjoy stories, which are read in an expressive way, capturing the children's attention. The children join in with stories and recall the main events. Children are given an opportunity to take books home with them to share with their families. Parents comment how they feel this is having a positive impact on their children's communication and language.
- Staff plan activities for the children to take part in which are intended to embed children's learning. However, at times these have a narrow focus. Staff do not consider how the activity is going to enable children to practise and enhance their knowledge and skills.
- Children behave incredibly well. They play well together, sharing and taking turns. Children show care and concern for each other. For example, they comfort their friends when they are upset after falling over. Children have good listening and attention skills and follow the pre-school rules which help to keep them safe. For example, they walk in pairs as they move from the indoor area to

the dedicated outdoor play area.

- Children have ample opportunity to engage in physical play. They enjoy moving their bodies in different ways, negotiating the large indoor play equipment. They also enjoy spending time outdoors and practise riding the scooters and bikes. Children also take regular trips in the local community, including walking to the park. As part of these trips, children learn about road safety.
- The manager works well with parents and other professionals to make sure children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) receive timely support. Staff are working effectively with children, offering sensitive intervention which is supporting them to make progress in their learning and development.
- The manager supports less experienced staff well and identifies training needs through observing the quality of their practice. Staff access ongoing training which enables them to meet the individual needs of the children, in particular those with SEND. Staff have regular meetings where information from training is shared, to enable all staff to make positive changes.
- There are currently no links with the local primary schools. Key information about the particular needs of the children is not being shared with the teachers, to ensure that they know how to best support them when they move settings.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers and staff ensure children are well cared for in a safe environment. Staff and children complete risk assessments of the pre-school, which ensures that risks are minimised. An effective key-person system enables children to communicate their needs to trusted adults. Staff are well trained in safeguarding and follow the local authority procedures and statutory guidance effectively, which keeps children safe. The manager implements effective plans to ensure that children receive support in a timely manner. The recruitment, selection and induction procedures are robust. The manager completes ongoing suitability checks of the staff.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- support staff to ensure they are effectively planning and providing exciting activities and opportunities that build on children's learning and development and help them make progress
- establish relationships with local primary schools, to ensure children's move to their next stage of learning is smooth and well planned for.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY562816
Local authority	Rochdale
Inspection number	10191727
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 at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	11
Name of registered person	Little Stars Pre-School Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP562815
Telephone number	01706525345
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Little Stars Pre-School Ltd was registered in 2019. It is situated in Rochdale. The pre-school opens Tuesday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9.30am to 2.30pm. The pre-school receives funding for children aged two years and the early years pupil premium.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Suzanne Fenwick

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the setting and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk together.
- The inspector and manager carried out a joint observation.
- Children spoke to the inspector about what they liked to play with and their families.
- Parents spoke to the inspector about their views on the pre-school and the manager.
- The inspector observed the children indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to the staff about the children.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.

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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