

Inspection of Shooting Stars Nurseries Gloucester

281 Stroud Road, Gloucester GL1 5LB

Inspection date: 7 July 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

Children excitedly explore the open-plan garden. They pretend that they are being chased by dinosaurs, carefully negotiating the curved pathways and avoiding other children as they run. They coordinate with hands and feet as they climb over the climbing wall to escape from the 'T-Rex'. Children recall visits to the actual park where they saw model dinosaurs and eagerly tell adults all about it.

Toddlers enjoy song times. They choose soft toys from a bag and then recall which song they need to sing. Children join in with the repeated phrases about frogs jumping into the pond or the sheep with the blue coat because it is summertime. Babies concentrate well as they build with the natural wooden blocks and fit wooden rings onto posts. They knock over the towers they build, laughing and shouting 'crash' as it falls.

Leaders and managers have started to redesign the play spaces indoors and outdoors. They have introduced new resources made from natural materials to enhance children's sensory experiences. Staff share what is happening with parents. They use online systems to show them photographs of the changes as parents are not coming into the nursery at present due to the safety measures for the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

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

- Leaders and managers have reviewed the work practices and environments, highlighting changes that they would like to make. They have taken on board learning from recent events and ensured that staff have been retrained in whistle-blowing policies and procedures. Staff know what to do in the event of an allegation being raised.
- Staff comment that they receive good support from leaders and managers to enhance their professional development and receive help when they ask for it. Leaders and managers are conscious of the pressures on staff, children and families due to the COVID-19 pandemic. They have sought training and guidance on mental health and well-being, which they are implementing throughout the setting.
- Staff have recognised that parents and children cannot have settling-in visits as they would normally do. They make use of a spare baby room that is not in use to help children get used to the environment and their key person. Children and parents get the chance to experience the nursery and begin to form bonds with key persons well.
- Younger children and babies build on their communication skills and use their imagination well, with good support from staff. As children play in the role-play house, changing baby dolls and feeding them, staff ask questions and join in

with storylines. Children express thoughts and ideas and build on their pretend play, while staff offer new words to extend vocabulary.

- Key persons know what children need to learn next and adapt planning accordingly, ensuring all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities or those who are learning English as an additional language, are motivated to learn. They follow children's interests and make changes to promote learning. For example, having noticed children's interest in puzzles, staff use additional funding to purchase a wider variety to engage children better. Children concentrate well as they work together to complete a large floor puzzle. They show respect and care for others as they wait for their turn to fit the next piece. Children make good progress in their learning and their behaviour is good.
- Toddlers excitedly sprinkle chocolate-coloured flakes into shaving foam. They cover their hands with the foam and smell it, commenting that it smells 'clean'. Staff interact with the children and talk about what they are doing. However, sometimes, staff ask questions that they know children know the answers to, rather than ones that could extend learning further.
- Staff use children's interests in a favourite story to act out a 'blow football' game they have read about. Children show good recall of the story as they play. Staff remind children to blow through the straws and praise children when they get the frozen peas they are using as balls to move across the table. Children exclaim excitedly as they play. Sometimes, the quieter children are overlooked as more-enthusiastic children take over conversations and actions.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

All staff know what to do in the event of a concern about the welfare of a child. Staff are also confident about actions to take for wider safeguarding issues, such as potential exposure to extreme views or actions that may put a child at risk of harm. They understand the whistle-blowing policies and how to act when they have worries about the behaviour of adults, including which agencies they need to talk to. Leaders and managers include discussions about revisions to safety protocols and policies at staff meetings and then share these with staff and parents. Staff carry out risk assessments to maintain the safety and well-being of children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- improve the way staff use activities for children's learning and development to make sure they include quieter children better and extend children's knowledge and skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY551538
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	10201165
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	76
Number of children on roll	126
Name of registered person	My Shooting Stars Nurseries Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP551536
Telephone number	01452 504986
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Shooting Stars Nurseries Gloucester registered in September 2017. It is based in Stroud Road, Gloucester. The nursery offers care from 7.30am to 6pm Monday to Friday all year round. There are 24 staff employed by the nursery. Of these, one holds qualified teacher status and a further 17 hold appropriate childcare qualifications: two at level 6, 14 at level 3 and one at level 2. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Anita McKelvey

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- A learning walk was completed by the manager and the inspector to look at how the organisation and structure of the nursery supports the curriculum for children's learning and development.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager in the pre-school to review the quality of teaching.
- Parents spoke to the inspector and shared their views online about the nursery.
- Children talked with the inspector about what they enjoy doing at nursery.

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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