

Inspection of Little Star Nursery

Little Star Nursery, Bristol Road, Farrington Gurney, BRISTOL BS39 6TG

Inspection date:

26 August 2022

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive in this nursery. Staff provide plenty of resources and create an excellent environment. Children make choices about what they want to do. They enjoy playing with toy dinosaurs. They explore materials available to create a dinosaur swamp. Staff listen to children, observe, follow their interests and respond to their needs. Staff introduce activities which children benefit from, particularly those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Staff present to children a bucket of toys and introduce them one by one. This activity helps children to concentrate and maintain their attention. Children show that they feel safe and secure in the nursery. Staff form strong relationships with children from the outset. They provide reassurance as children settle into the nursery. Children are respectful of others.

Children learn and develop in an inclusive environment where everyone's culture or lifestyle is welcome. Staff create opportunities for children to think, be creative and try out their own ideas. Children have access to paint outdoors and enjoy painting the wooden fence. Staff encourage children to explore and find answers to their questions independently. Parents are happy with the progress that their children make at the nursery. They speak highly of the dedicated staff.

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

- The manager and staff provide a stimulating environment for children to explore at their own pace and become independent learners. They give children the choice of whether they would like to play indoors or outdoors. They listen to children's ideas and encourage them to use their imagination superbly. For example, children express an interest in dinosaurs and staff invite children to go on an imaginary dinosaur hunt.
- Children settle fast and start on their learning with confidence. Children behave exceptionally well. They have exemplary manners and are kind and polite. Their attitudes towards learning are positive and they are willing to have a go at various activities.
- Staff promote children's communication at every opportunity. Staff use innovative ways to support children's mathematical skills and development. At the beginning of circle time, children say their favourite shape and colour. Staff then draw it on the floor for them to sit down on. Staff show picture cards with different actions on for children to describe. They then have great fun joining in with children as they do the actions. Staff provide resources that encourage children to tell their own stories.
- Staff support children with SEND brilliantly. They work in partnership with other professionals, and they include learning strategies during circle time to support children's language development. For example, they use signs and words to help

children to communicate and talk with others.

- The manager and staff provide high-quality care and teaching. The manager promotes strong teamwork and staff's well-being. Staff's professional development is a priority. Focused training has a significant impact on their everyday practice. Staff attend training about the importance of building a caring and nurturing environment for children to learn.
- Children learn to appreciate nature and respect the environment. They benefit from a range of rich learning experiences as they enjoy playing in the nearby woodland area. They explore the natural environment, using their imagination amazingly. They come across different natural objects and equipment and try out their own ideas. For instance, they use sticks and rope to build homes for imaginary characters.
- Parents have very high regard for the nursery. They report that staff are incredibly kind and caring. Parents are grateful that the manager and staff support and advise them on a regular basis regarding their children's learning and development. Parents also report that staff prepare older children superbly for the next stage in their education.
- There is a friendly and inclusive atmosphere in the nursery. Families from different backgrounds share and celebrate their culture or lifestyle. The manager and staff foster a unique culture of inclusive values and respect. All children thrive and feel highly valued.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff have excellent knowledge of how to safeguard the children in their care. Staff attend appropriate training regularly. They can identify key signs and symptoms of possible abuse or neglect, which helps to protect children from harm. They display secure knowledge of what to do if they have a concern about a child or a colleague and know who they should report it to. Staff supervise children very well. The entrance to the premises is secure and all staff hold a current paediatric first-aid certificate.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY375318
Local authority	Bath and North East Somerset Council
Inspection number	10235218
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	1 to 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	54
Name of registered person	Little Star Nursery Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP909285
Telephone number	01761 452142
Date of previous inspection	7 October 2016

Information about this early years setting

Little Star Nursery registered in 2008. It is a privately owned nursery and operates from the Methodist Church in the village of Farrington Gurney, Somerset. The nursery is open from Monday to Friday for 49 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The owner/manager holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 7. She employs seven members of staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 6, five hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 3 and one is the nursery cook.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Stella Orfanidou

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the nursery 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 nursery.
- The inspector considered the views of parents spoken to at the inspection and their written comments via email.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about the curriculum and what they want children to learn.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector had a leadership and management meeting with the manager and the deputy. They discussed staff supervision, safe recruitment and staff's well-being.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation 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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