

# Inspection of Bright Stars Childcare

Green Lane, FROME, Somerset BA11 4JW

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Inspection date: 23 May 2023

**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 Outstanding

## **What is it like to attend this early years setting?**

### **The provision is good**

Staff outline clear intentions for the activities and support they will offer children to help them progress. Children's communication and literacy is prioritised, and each age group has a focus book and song of the week. There are books throughout the nursery and cosy areas for children to snuggle with staff to share a story. The nursery's little community library also encourages reading at home.

Babies and children form strong bonds with the friendly staff, and their safety and well-being is closely supported. Staff are attentive to children's needs. Parents are positive about the caring staff and say that they always greet the children with a big smile. There is a calm atmosphere across the nursery. Staff offer patient explanations to help children to manage their emotions, understand the needs of others, and adapt their behaviour. Managers and room leaders have outlined the need to increase their support for children's social and emotional development since the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff have commendably undertaken training and there is considerable focus on this. Their 'Nursery promises' offer children kind, safe behaviour to follow; these are also shared with parents to promote the same messages at home too. Children acquire key skills and older children are well prepared for their move on to school.

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

- Children's communication progresses well. Babies copy sounds and words modelled to them. Young children begin to communicate their needs. Older children confidently share their knowledge and ideas. For example, they discuss the caterpillar's 'cocoons', and describe the butterfly's wings as being 'precious'. Staff liaise with parents to link to children's home languages. They are quick to offer extra support to develop children's speech if needed.
- Children's care needs are supported effectively. Clear procedures help staff implement suitable practice. Staff are mindful of children's needs to ensure their comfort and well-being, such as to ensure nappies are changed regularly, dietary requirements are adhered to and children get the rest they need.
- Children build their independence skills. Babies and young children effectively feed themselves with their cutlery at lunch time. They help tidy toys and show a growing sense of responsibility. Older children serve themselves food at mealtimes, pour their own drinks and conscientiously clear away their things.
- Children enjoy the sensory and creative opportunities available to them. Babies excitedly explore new textures, such as jelly. Children enjoy painting and water play. They build dinosaur models and a castle with blocks. Older children explore items at the investigation station, such as plums and pea pods, opening these up to explore what is inside. They show positive attitudes to new experiences and enjoy testing out their ideas.

- Children make good progress, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Key persons work with room leaders and the nursery's special educational needs coordinator (SENCo) to support gaps in children's development. However, staff do not always carefully plan their group activities. They sometimes lead these at busy times and in busy areas and occasionally children's listening and attention and their involvement do not develop as much as possible.
- Partnerships with parents is something the management team continually develop. They gain the views of parents to help them evaluate and outline enhancements to practice. Staff liaise with parents and other professionals working with children. There is a two-way flow of information to help provide a consistent approach to the support children receive.
- The management team undertake observations of staff practice. They lead supervision and team meetings. They support staff to undertake qualifications and training. Staff skills are good. However, sometimes staff do not flexibly adapt their teaching and support to extend children's learning fully. For example, occasionally they do not follow children's changing interests during an activity or help them be more successful with a new skill.
- There have been some staff changes within the nursery in the last year. The parent company's area manager is working closely with the new manager and existing deputy managers to support the whole team. They are reflective and have good processes for evaluating their practice and provision.

## **Safeguarding**

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff implement risk assessment procedures well, to identify and minimise hazards. New cushioned flooring in the outdoor area provides a suitable environment for young children to explore and develop their skills. Security procedures are robust. Staff make sure entry procedures are adhered to. They supervise the children closely, so children are kept safe. Managers ensure vetting procedures for staff are undertaken. New staff receive a thorough induction to ensure that they are familiar with the nursery's procedures. Staff understand their responsibilities. They undertake safeguarding training and know what to do if they have concerns about a child in their care or the conduct of other staff.

## **What does the setting need to do to improve?**

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

- review adult-led group sessions to develop children's attention and involvement to higher levels
- support staff to consistently make the most of available learning opportunities, to develop children's skills as much as possible.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY407050
<b>Local authority</b>	Somerset
<b>Inspection number</b>	10289578
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	0 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	88
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	151
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Bright Stars Childcare Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP529600
<b>Telephone number</b>	01373 451619
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	29 November 2017

## Information about this early years setting

Bright Stars Childcare registered in 2010 and is located in Frome, Somerset. It operates from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday. There are 30 members of staff that work with the children. Of these 17 hold an appropriate qualification ranging from level 2 to level 6, and there are four apprentices. The nursery provides funded places for children aged two, three and four years.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Rachel Howell

## Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection of the setting since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the managers and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provision.
- The inspector viewed all areas and discussed with the managers how these areas are used.
- The manager, deputy manager and the inspector evaluated the effectiveness of an activity together.
- The inspector observed the children and staff and spoke with them at appropriate times during the inspection.
- Discussions were held with the SENCo and the member of staff who leads practice for children who speak English as an additional language.
- Parents shared their views of the provision with the inspector.
- Meetings were held with the manager, deputy manager and area manager as well as the nominated individual to discuss the overall management and running of the nursery.
- Relevant documentation was reviewed by the inspector including suitability checks and paediatric first-aid qualifications.
- The managers discussed their safety and child protection procedures and safeguarding discussions were undertaken with members of the staff team.

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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