

Inspection of Little Shining Stars

off Brougham Road, Lakeside, Huddersfield HD7 6AE

Inspection date: 8 March 2024

Overall effectiveness	Inadequate
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The quality of education	Inadequate
Behaviour and attitudes	Inadequate
Personal development	Inadequate
Leadership and management	Inadequate
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Inadequate

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children's health, hygiene and safety are not sufficiently promoted. Weaknesses in the leadership and management of the setting do not safeguard children or ensure their well-being. Leaders and staff do not adequately carry out risk assessments of activities and resources. As a result, some activities that children play with are not safe or appropriate for their age or stage of development. Leaders and staff do not ensure that the outdoor play equipment is cleaned and maintained to an acceptable standard. This compromises children's good health and safety. Furthermore, leaders have poor oversight over staffing arrangements. Children are collected from school by staff members who are not qualified to administer paediatric first aid. This has an impact on children's safety during school collection times.

Nonetheless, children build good relationships with others. They laugh and giggle together as they play and explore. Children enjoy finding out about how a magnet works. Staff encourage children to develop their sense of curiosity as they explore the nursery to find magnetic objects. Children are excited and say, 'it's magnetic!' when their magnet sticks to an item.

Children are praised for their efforts. For example, staff give children a 'high five' when they do something well. This promotes children's self-esteem. Staff step in at appropriate times to provide support for children if needed. For instance, toddlers are encouraged and guided as they begin to use a jug to pour their own cups of milk during snack time. This helps children to develop confidence in their abilities as they learn new skills.

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

- The processes for carrying out risk assessments are not robust enough to safeguard children in the nursery. Leaders and staff have a poor understanding of how to carry out risk assessments for resources and activities that are accessed by children. Leaders and staff do not check that resources are safe and appropriate for babies to play with. Babies play with small beads that are not intended for children of their age. These may pose a choking hazard or cause injury if inserted into their nose and mouth. However, leaders took action to remove these resources and prevent their future use once this was highlighted to them by the inspector.
- Leaders and staff do not ensure that children's outdoor play equipment is regularly cleaned or maintained. Babies play on outdoor toys that are muddy and dirty. This is a repeated breach of requirements that has been raised with the nursery leaders previously and does not promote children's good health and hygiene.

- Leaders do not have good oversight over staffing arrangements and staff deployment. During the inspection, the manager was unaware that a staff member, who does not hold a paediatric first-aid qualification, collected children from school to attend the nursery's after-school club. The staff member was not trained or qualified to provide paediatric first aid in the event of a medical emergency. This compromises children's safety.
- Staff read books and stories to the pre-school children with enthusiasm. They ask questions to promote conversation and encourage older children to speak in sentences. Staff ask questions to each other to demonstrate good speaking skills to children. However, staff working in the baby room do not always use the correct words when modelling new vocabulary to babies. For example, staff say 'nana' instead of 'banana'. Babies repeat the incorrect word back to staff. This does not fully support babies' speech and language development.
- Daily routines help children know what is happening next. Children know that they need to wash their hands before they eat and eagerly sit down as they wait for their food. Staff say 'thank you' to support children's understanding of when to use good manners. Children follow instructions from staff and help to tidy away the nursery resources.
- Leaders use funding to provide experiences for children that they might not receive elsewhere. For instance, leaders and staff take children to the theatre to watch a live performance of a familiar story. This builds on children's prior knowledge and experiences and helps to enhance their learning.
- Parents and carers appreciate the regular communication and updates from the nursery staff about their children's experiences. The nursery staff update a private social media page to keep parents informed about the activities on offer and the topics that children are learning about. Parents say that their children learn new skills, such as putting on their own coats and shoes, which in turn helps them to be ready to start school.
- Leaders carry out robust checks of staff to ensure their suitability. They provide regular supervision sessions for staff to support their practice and well-being. Staff access training to enhance their skills and knowledge. For example, staff who work with children with special educational needs and/or disabilities carry out training to support them in this work.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

There is not an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action.

We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:

	Due date
improve staff's and leaders' awareness of how to risk assess the activities and resources provided for children, to ensure that resources are safe and appropriate for children's ages and stages of development	14/03/2024
maintain the hygiene and cleanliness of play equipment in the outdoor play area	14/03/2024
ensure that leaders have clear oversight of staff deployment to ensure children's safety during school collection and drop off times	14/03/2024
ensure that staffing arrangements allow for at least one member of staff who holds an up-to-date paediatric first aid qualification to be present to supervise children during school drop off and collection times.	14/03/2024

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

- ensure that staff use the correct vocabulary when modelling words to babies to support their early language skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY475114
Local authority	Kirklees
Inspection number	10315818
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 8
Total number of places	67
Number of children on roll	67
Name of registered person	Little Shining Stars Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP533477
Telephone number	01484 767090
Date of previous inspection	26 September 2023

Information about this early years setting

Little Shining Stars registered in 2014 and is located in Huddersfield. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff, of whom seven hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 2 to level 6. The nursery operates all year round, from 7.30am until 6pm, Monday to Friday. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Samantha Lambert

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want children to learn.
- Children spoke to and communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- 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 observed the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity with the manager.
- Parents shared their views on the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector spoke with the nursery leaders and staff about their safeguarding knowledge and responsibilities.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.

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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