

Little Star Nursery

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



Inspection date

7 October 2016

Previous inspection date

12 September 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Inspirational leadership provides staff with exceptional support, training and guidance, leading to outstanding teaching, learning and assessment throughout the nursery. The management team and staff prepare children extremely well for their next stage in learning and children make excellent progress in relation to their starting points.
- The management team and staff complete sharply focused and reflective evaluation of the provision to maintain the highest levels of achievement. They actively seek and act on the views of parents and children, involving them in making decisions.
- Children have very high self-esteem. Staff are very responsive to children's ideas and value their contributions. Staff support children's emotional well-being highly effectively. Children form very strong attachments with the nurturing staff who have an excellent knowledge of their individual needs.
- There are excellent opportunities for all children to explore and investigate. They make informed choices about their play in a highly stimulating learning environment. Passionate staff interact highly effectively and enthusiastically support children to think of ideas, solve problems and plan for the next step in their learning.
- Skilful staff support younger children extremely well to gain very good communication and language skills. For example, they encourage the younger ones to retell and sequence stories using pictures and props.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for pre-school children to engage more fully during group activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff interactions with children inside and in the outdoor area.
- The inspector spoke with staff about children's learning, the assessment process and their care needs at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke with the owner/manager about the leadership of the nursery and completed a joint observation of a planned activity.
- The inspector considered the views of parents spoken to at the inspection and their written comments.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including the nursery's self-evaluation and children's assessment records.

Inspector

Rachael Williams

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff have an extremely strong understanding of child protection procedures and their responsibilities to report concerns. The management team follows thorough recruitment and monitoring systems to ensure staff suitability. The management team monitors children's needs very effectively. It oversees staff who very skilfully review children's progress and identify any gaps in learning. The management team ensures staff work exceptionally well with parents, professionals and other early years settings to maintain an extremely consistent approach to children's learning and care. This is particularly evident in the support children with special educational needs receive when they move on to school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children are very eager to learn and explore with great enthusiasm. Skilful staff give children every opportunity to be involved in their learning and set their own 'star goals' for improvement. Children show great pride in these achievements. Knowledgeable staff use their training exceptionally well, for example, to organise the day to enable children to actively participate in a wealth of well-balanced experiences across all areas of their learning. There is immense consideration for those children who learn better outside and need opportunities to be physically active. For example, boys thrive in the opportunities to think critically and explore the water wall outside. Occasionally, staff do not consider the pace of group activities to engage older children more fully.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are exemplary role models and help children learn extremely high standards of safety and health. Staff empower children to assess risk for themselves and take responsibility for their choices. For example, they actively involve children in completing 'risk benefit' checks and help them to understand the safety signs in the outdoor area. Staff embed knowledge from training exceptionally well to support children's behaviour. For example, they consistently remind children of rules and encourage them to resolve conflicts independently. Older children are respectful of younger ones and listen when they make it known they do not want them to clean their ride-on cars, for example.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are extremely well prepared to gain the skills for their future learning and going to school. They are highly motivated and engage in activities with tremendous independence and perseverance. Children learn to solve problems very well and sustain concentration for long periods. For example, older children move different sized plastic ducks along the guttering to test which is the best order for the fastest descent when they release the water.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY375318
Local authority	Bath & NE Somerset
Inspection number	1062178
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	27
Name of registered person	Little Star Nursery Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP909285
Date of previous inspection	12 September 2013
Telephone number	01761 452142

Little Star Nursery registered in 2008. It is a privately owned nursery and operates from the Methodist Church situated in the village of Farrington Gurney, Somerset. The nursery is open Monday to Friday between 8am and 6pm for 49 weeks per year. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years. The owner/manager holds an early years qualification at level 6 and a Master's degree. She employs six members of staff, one of whom holds an early years qualification at level 5, four hold early years qualifications at level 3 and one holds a level 2 qualification.

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