

Little Stars @ The Heathway Centre

Heathway Centre, 512a Heathway, Dagenham, Essex, RM10 7SJ



Inspection date	25 November 2015
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The provider has a strong understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements. Children are well cared for and receive a good level of education specific for their needs. They progress well.
- Staff are skilled at working with external professionals to understand and meet children's next steps of development.
- Staff have established strong relationships with parents that include sharing records and keeping parents up to date with their children's achievements.
- Children use a stimulating environment and all have access to the activities. Children are eager to play and learn, and enjoy attending the setting.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff extend children's learning during adult-led activities, not all have the very highest expectations of what children can achieve, and some staff miss chances to provide further challenges for them.
- Staff do not take every opportunity to teach children about the meaning of living healthy lifestyles.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure all staff have the very highest expectations of what children can achieve during planned activities
- increase children's understanding of how to live healthy lifestyles.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children indoors and outdoors, and checked the premises and resources.
- The inspector read a sample of relevant documentation.
- The inspector spoke to staff, children and the management team at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Caroline Preston

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand and implement the safeguarding procedures well. They know how to identify concerns that may indicate a child is at risk of harm. Staff complete detailed risk assessments to identify and reduce any risks so that children play in safe environments. The provider ensures staff receive supervision and guidance from senior staff and that their practice is monitored. She drives improvement and carries out self-evaluation. Staff are encouraged to attend further training, specifically to enable them to meet the care and medical needs of the children. Staff use their qualifications well. They promote children's understanding of diversity effectively. For example, children have access to resources reflecting the wider world and learn about the differences between themselves and others.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff observe and assess children's development regularly. Children make good progress from their starting points, including disabled children and those who have special educational needs. Staff promote children's physical development effectively. For example, children learn to ride wheeled toys, manoeuvre them safely and change direction skilfully. Children develop their social skills well. They develop friendships and strong attachments to the staff who provide individual care during the session. Staff help all children to feel safe and to be able to express their ideas and thoughts. Children develop that mathematical awareness, such as through grouping toy animals according to their differences and similarities. Staff promote children's creative development effectively. Children enjoy creating pictures using a range of different textured materials, including leaves.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children learn about the expectations for their behaviour. They learn to channel their emotions and feelings in a positive way. They are emotionally secure and trust the staff that care for them. Children have healthy snacks and drinks. They develop independent skills, such as when they serve themselves and attend to their personal needs. Staff promote children's understanding of personal safety. For example, children use play resources safely inside and outside. Staff are skilled at developing links with relevant schools. Children are well prepared for the next stage of their learning.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make strong improvements in their development and learning from their starting points. Children develop skills to help them succeed and progress to their next stage of education.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY463485
Local authority	Barking & Dagenham
Inspection number	943041
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	3 - 8
Total number of places	8
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	Barnardo's
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	02082275436

Little Stars @ The Heathway Centre registered in 2013. The setting is open on Tuesdays from 10.30am until 12.30pm and from 3pm until 5.30pm, and on Wednesdays from 3pm until 5.30pm during school terms. The setting employs four members of staff; of these, all hold relevant qualifications.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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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