

Shortlands Little Stars

84 Martins Road, Shortlands, BR2 0EF



Inspection date	18 October 2016
Previous inspection date	18 March 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Children's behaviour is very good. Children develop a sense of respect for one another and show empathy for their friends. They follow the consistent guidance given by staff and are encouraged to share and take turns as they play alongside each other
- Staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They use observations and assessments and plan purposeful activities based on children's next steps in learning.
- A strong leadership team encourages staff to continually provide good standards of teaching and care. Overall, staff plan well for each child's learning and all children make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff work very well with a range of other professionals and outside agencies, and effectively work together to provide continuity in how the identified needs of children are met.
- The strong leadership team supports and encourages staff to provide consistently good standards of teaching and care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion during daily routines staff are not as effective at keeping older children engaged and supporting them to build on their independence skills further.
- Staff, on occasion, do not gather enough information from parents about their children's ongoing learning at home to help them gain a more precise picture of where children are in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of daily routines and make the most of opportunities to support older children's learning further and engage them fully in tasks
- explore further ways to encourage parents to share more information about their children's learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and held discussions about children's learning and progress.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation including children's learning and assessment records, and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the staff working with the children and the provider's self-evaluation and improvement plans.

Inspector

Anja Eribake

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Managers closely monitor the work of staff. They observe staff as they work with children and offer suggestions on how practice could be further improved. Managers regularly meet with staff to discuss children's progress and their roles. This enables managers to identify and plan for staff's future professional development needs. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have a good understanding of their safeguarding responsibilities and regularly refresh their knowledge to keep up to date with current legislation. They are aware of how and where to report any concerns about a child's welfare. They check the areas children use for potential hazards and promptly address these. Staff supervise children closely to help keep them safe. Thorough recruitment, vetting and induction procedures help ensure staff know their roles and are suitable to work with children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff gather important information from the parents when children first start attending, and observe children themselves, to help identify their starting points and their next steps in learning. Staff support children's communication, social and physical skills well. They talk to children about what they are doing as they play and introduce new and exciting words. For example, very young children thoroughly enjoy listening to staff singing nursery rhymes, and exploring rattles. Management and staff monitor children's progress closely and are aware of the next steps they need to take in their learning. This enables them to identify any gaps in children's learning and plan how to close these.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are good role models; they treat children fairly and speak to them in a calm and respectful manner. This helps children to understand how to manage their own behaviour and make friends. For example, older children offer to help their friends such as holding their plate for them while they dish their lunch. The key-person system is effective in helping children to settle if distressed. Staff inform parents daily about what their children have enjoyed doing that day. Staff understand the importance of fresh air and exercise. Children have daily opportunities to develop their large physical skills, both indoors and outdoors. Staff provide a wide variety of healthy meals and snacks. Fresh drinking water is always available to children should they require it.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learn a broad range of skills at this happy nursery. Children are developing good independence skills. They are aware of what is expected of them and follow simple instructions well. Children communicate their needs and are confident learners. They are developing the skills they need to prepare them well for school. For example, all children enjoy opportunities to make marks and are developing good early literacy skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY332042
Local authority	Bromley
Inspection number	1061989
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	0 - 4
Total number of places	72
Number of children on roll	64
Name of registered person	Casterbridge Nurseries Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP900869
Date of previous inspection	18 March 2013
Telephone number	0203 780 3066

Shortlands Little Stars registered in 1996. The nursery is housed in a converted chapel situated in a residential area of Bromley, in the London Borough of Bromley. The nursery opens each weekday throughout the year from 7.30am until 6.30pm, closing for one week at Christmas. The nursery employs 19 staff, 14 of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at either level 5, level 3 or level 2. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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