



Inspection Report

Little Stars Coryton

**Coryton Primary School
Hollybush Estate
Whitchurch
Cardiff
CF14 7DS**



Date Inspection Completed

26/05/2021

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About Little Stars Coryton

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Out of School Care
Registered Provider	Little Stars Childcare (Cardiff) Limited
Registered places	48
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	First Inspection post registration
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	This is a service that does not provide an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh Language. It does not anticipate, identify or meet the Welsh language needs of children who use, or intend to use the service.

Summary

This is an inspection undertaken during the Covid19 pandemic; therefore, we have focused on the priority areas for this setting and not the full quality framework.

Children enjoy their time at the afterschool club and can relax and have fun with their friends. They are fond of the staff, who know them well and understand their individual preferences. Children are encouraged to speak, share their ideas and can freely choose what they want to play with. Children enjoy the good selection of activities and resources available. Leaders ensure that the environment is safe and secure and routines of the playgroup are risk assessed appropriately. They use a suitable range of policies and procedures to support and manage the service which are reviewed and updated. Staff keep parents well informed about their child's well-being on a daily basis. The number of staff caring for children is maintained at an appropriate level.

Well-being

Children are settled and happy at the afterschool club. They enjoy spending time playing with their friends, many of whom they know from school. They can move around the play areas freely and choose from a good selection of activities. The children have opportunities to decide what resources they want including new toys they would like purchased. For example, the new iPads bought recently for the club were chosen by the children.

Children are engaged and interested in the activities on offer at the afterschool club. During the current COVID 19 pandemic they are organised into bubbles for health and safety reasons. Within these groups children can move around freely choosing from a range of activities and resources. Children are happy to play with their friends and have fun inviting staff to join in their games. For example, children are eager to answer questions about how they can make a good first impression and laugh at staffs funny and playful responses.

Children enjoy spending extra time at the club with some of their school friends or mixing with other children from the school. The older children act as good role models for the younger children. They are polite and enjoy receiving praise and recognition from staff for good manners, being kind and helpful. They behaved very well and the atmosphere is relaxed and calm. Children's self-help skills are developing well. They often wash their own hands or help to tidy up resources between activities. Many children put their own shoes and coats on with help from staff when required. Children are adapting well to new routines and changes, which have been implemented due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Care and Development

Care staff follow suitable procedures to ensure they meet the health and safety needs of children they care for. Staff are confident in procedures for dealing with and recording accidents, incidents. They keep suitable written records which are audited monthly to identify patterns including incidents, accidents and risk assessments. All staff have relevant child care or play work qualifications along with paediatric first aid and safeguarding training.

There is a safeguarding policy in place which outlines the procedure to follow in the event of a safeguarding concern for a child at the setting. A small number of staff were unclear on aspects of this procedure. Also, not all staff have received additional training to support children with individual health or medical. Staff recognise the importance of updating their First Aid training and knowledge. A small number of staff are due to complete a practical First Aid training course.

A suitable range of snacks and drinks are provided. Leaders explained that during the COVID 19 pandemic, their normal food shopping delivery has been cancelled. This has resulted in changes to the menu options available for children at the club. The menu is due to be reviewed and developed in line with Welsh Government guidelines on healthy options for child care and updated with information on potential food allergens. The setting has developed a specific COVID -19 policy and risk assessment and has good procedures to protect children during the current pandemic. Good hygiene routines are in place to promote children's health, including encouraging children to wash their hands at appropriate times. Staff work together to ensure they have a consistent approach to managing behaviour in line with the setting's behaviour management policy. For example, staff use familiar verbal and non-verbal signals with the children to get their attention including clapping. Staff understand the importance of acting as good role models and successfully encourage children to help with tasks such as tidying up. Staff have a suitable understanding of individual children's needs, abilities and backgrounds. This helps them to plan age appropriate activities that will keep the children interested.

Environment

The setting is secure and children have provides plenty of space to play. There is a set of policies and procedures in place to ensure the environment is safe which includes risk assessments that are reviewed and updated. Fire safety is given appropriate consideration and children and staff practice fire evacuation drills appropriately. Maintenance and safety checks for the building and appliances are routinely checked including portable appliance testing.

Staff provide children with an interesting and varied range of clean, age appropriate resources that are well maintained and stored where children can access them freely. The afterschool club is a pack away service located in Coryton Primary school hall with use of an outdoor area. The indoor area is large and provides a good range of play opportunities for children to be independent and active. Children have access to an outdoor play space where they can enjoy physical play including balls and hoops. There are a suitable number of children's toilets and changing facilities available for the number of children attending the service.

They ensure current best practice guidance is followed to protect children from the risk of COVID-19. This includes a combination of deep cleaning or the quarantining of toys and rotating resources regularly which are stored in colour coded boxes.

Leadership and Management

Leaders have a clear vision and aims for the setting. They provide parents with a suitable statement of purpose, policies and procedures so they are clear about what to expect from the setting. There is a COVID 19 policy in place and procedures have been updated based on current best practice guidance. Leaders understand their responsibility to comply with the child care regulations and work in line with the National Minimum Standards for Day Care.

Leaders ensure that all mandatory training for staff is completed. The quality of the staff files retained tell us leaders are clear about their responsibility to recruit safely and ensure all staff are suitable to work with children. Staff receive annual appraisals which allows them to reflect on their roles and discuss any training needs. Timetabled meetings and informal catch ups take place although no one to one supervisions are in place currently. During the current pandemic leaders hold virtual meetings with the staff when needed. Staff said that leaders are very supportive and that they worked well as a team.

Leaders have clear plans in place to undertake a service review and help plan for improvement. They ask parents, staff and children for their views in order to complete a quality of care report. There is a suitable complaints policy available for parents. Children do not have a complaints policy or formal procedure for raising concerns currently.

Leaders work closely together with parents in order to plan for each child's individual needs. They have a number of good communication systems at the setting including regular verbal feedback, termly newsletters, display white board and a private social media app. Parents provide very positive feedback about the setting. We spoke to three parents who were all extremely happy with the service they receive. One commented that staff were very professional, approachable and friendly and always show interests in children's individual needs.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

- R1. Review and develop the current children's menu in line with Welsh Government guidelines on healthy options for child care and update with information on potential food allergens. Formalise supervision for staff in line with best practice guidelines for child care services. Update staff training for children with individual health needs as required. Ensure all staff have a clear understanding of the safeguarding policy and confident with all aspects of the procedure. Develop a children's complaints policy and procedure.

Areas for improvement and action at, or since, the previous inspection. Achieved

Areas for improvement and action at, or since, the previous inspection. Not Achieved

None	
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Areas where priority action is required

None	
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Areas where improvement is required

None	
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