

# Stepping Stones Community Nursery

Ground Floor, Melbury House, Richborne Terrace, London, SW8 1BA



## Inspection date

28 January 2015

Previous inspection date

15 February 2010

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Staff implement effective individual planning to meet the needs and interests of children. As a result, activities are stimulating and exciting for children.
- Staff help children develop good communication and language skills in both English and Spanish. They also support their social skills by engaging with them at their level.
- Children have plenty of space to move around the setting freely. They enjoy using an extensive range of easily-accessible resources.
- The management team uses a variety of strategies to continuously evaluate the provision. This helps it to drive improvement which benefits children.
- Staff promote positive partnerships with parents and involve them in their children's learning.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always provide opportunities for children to further develop their independence to help them be ready for the next stage 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:**

- enhance children's opportunities to develop independence in their self-care to prepare them well for the future.

## Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities and spoke to children during their play.
- The inspector had a discussion with the manager, and talked with members of staff.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their views.

## Inspector

Andrea Ulett

## Inspection findings

### **How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good**

Staff provide well-planned activities based on children's interests. This helps children progress well in all areas. Staff know children well, they regularly monitor and assess their progress to ensure there are no gaps in their learning. They effectively meet the needs of children by using individual planning focusing on each child's targets. Staff encourage and motivate children by continuously offering praise for their achievements. Staff help children's communication skills by asking them questions to develop their vocabulary. For example, staff use story sacks with props when telling children stories and ask them what they think will happen next. Children are confident and enjoy interacting and engaging in group activities. They have easy access to unlimited resources and staff encourage them to help themselves. Staff encourage children to develop self-care skills, such as washing their hands after messy play and before lunch. However, staff do not always encourage children to serve themselves during snack and lunchtime and to pour their own water. Consequently, staff miss opportunities to develop skills needed to prepare children for their future learning.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good**

A secure key-person system effectively supports children's well-being and helps them to feel secure. Staff support each child in their learning and development by working closely with parents to ensure children's needs are being met. For example, staff organise regular parents' evenings to discuss each child's care and progress. Staff promote healthy lifestyles by encouraging children to brush their teeth and assist them to blow their noses, and wash their hands. As a result, children begin to develop a good awareness of self-care skills overall. Children have daily access to the garden which is equipped with resources, such as a slide and playing skittles, to help their physical development.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good**

The manager demonstrates a good understanding of how to deliver and monitor the provision of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has robust systems in place to ensure the safe recruitment of suitable staff. Staff have a secure understanding of how to protect children. The manager uses parent questionnaires and works closely with the local authority to identify areas for development. The manager regularly observes staff practice and discusses this with them at supervision. As a result, they agree on areas for professional development that will have a positive impact on children's learning. The manager monitors children's progress and this allows her to identify any gaps in the learning of individuals or groups of children.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY398669
<b>Local authority</b>	Lambeth
<b>Inspection number</b>	816120
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	14
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	12
<b>Name of provider</b>	Stepping Stones Community Nursery
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	15 February 2010
<b>Telephone number</b>	0207 820 3800

Stepping Stones Community Nursery opened in 2009. It operates from a hall in a purpose-built community building in a residential estate in the London Borough of Lambeth, close to public transport links. All children share access to an enclosed outdoor play area. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm all year round. The nursery is registered on the Early Years Register. There are five members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications to at least NVQ level 3.

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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