

Stepping Stones Childcare

Church Of St Margaret With St Columba, 15 Woodhouse Road, London, E11 3NG



Inspection date

23 February 2015

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The provider ensures staff know their roles and implement requirements effectively. The provider ensures Ofsted is informed of any significant changes to the nursery including any health and safety issues, which are addressed immediately, thus maintaining children's well-being and safeguarding children well.
- Staff provide children with a good range of play resources and activities, which includes daily use of the newly refurbished garden. They help children be ready to move on to their next stage of their learning.
- Staff establish caring, affectionate relationships with children. They promote children's physical development, their emotional well-being and self-motivation effectively and meet their care needs well.
- The provider implements robust vetting and recruitment procedures for all staff. Staff undertake robust daily risk assessments to keep children safe. These include checking the car park, garden, and the security of the premises when the facility is closed.
- Staff work effectively with parents. They share progress reports regularly with them, which helps the staff meet the individual learning and development needs of the children effectively.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not do all possible to promote children's early mathematical learning to a very high standard.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's understanding of mathematics by keeping alert to introducing mathematical language during children's play and asking simple addition and subtraction questions.

Inspection activities

- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector examined a range of documentation, including children's records and staff files, and paperwork relating to health and safety.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents during the inspection.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, which included how the staff assess children's abilities and plan for their progress, methods for evaluating the provision and determining future developments, and how the staff maintain children's good health and safety.
- The inspector observed staff and children engaged in a range of activities including those relating to mathematics, and looked at the spaces, toys, resources and equipment available for children's use.

Inspector

Caroline Preston

Inspection findings

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

Staff are effective at observing and assessing children's development levels when they start at the nursery, so they get children off to a good start. They are skilled at identifying any gaps in children's learning and close these, which means all children make good progress. Staff develop babies' early communication skills well such as by singing and reading to them often, so they hear lots of new words. Staff provide regular outdoor play so children gain new skills. Children run, climb and ride wheeled toys extending their skills in speed, co-ordination and balance. Children thoroughly enjoy creative and imaginative experiences, for instance through staff providing playdough, water play and construction activities. However, during activities, staff do not keep alert to encouraging children to practice their early mathematical skills, such as through encouraging simple addition and subtraction in practical play situations. Nevertheless, children gain useful skills for their futures.

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

Staff provide children with a welcoming environment. They teach children the basics of healthy lifestyles and good hygiene practices. Children become independent. They willingly take on simple tasks, including serving themselves at mealtimes and helping to tidy away. Such expectations from staff help prepare children for the move to school. Staff help children understand that people and families differ. They teach children to behave well and in safe ways. Staff have good links with the local school and these help staff prepare children for the changes to come.

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

The manager monitors staff performance providing daily feedback to improve teaching practice. She works in the playrooms alongside staff promoting good teamwork and setting a positive example. The provider focuses on the professional development of staff through undertaking further training and gaining further qualifications. Managers have used their new knowledge and understanding to improve the learning areas in the playrooms and the resources available for the children. Such changes improve learning outcomes for children. The provider carries out robust self-evaluation processes that lead to effective changes. The premises have been refurbished to provide better learning environments for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY482580
Local authority	Waltham Forest
Inspection number	1005694
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	14
Name of provider	Stepping Stones Childcare Limited
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07711819522

Stepping Stones Childcare registered in 2014. It is situated in Leytonstone. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm during term time. The company employs seven members of staff; of these, all hold appropriate early years qualification. The nursery receives funding for the provision of some free early education for children aged three and four years.

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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