

# Step By Step Montessori - Edgware



John Keble Church Hall, Edgware, Middlesex, HA8 9NS

**Inspection date** 9 March 2015  
Previous inspection date 18 May 2009

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- The staff deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage very well through the Montessori teaching philosophy.
- Effective systems are in place to observe, assess and plan for children's individual needs and development.
- Partnership with parents is a strong aspect of the nursery. Parents are invited to forums where information is shared to support parents in child-related matters.
- The managers have high expectations and a strong commitment to reflecting on practice to develop a strong staff team.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- The staff do not make the best use of books to support and sustain children's interest when learning and experiencing new activities.
- There is a limited supply of creative resources accessible to children to support them to develop their creativity and imaginations fully.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider ways of using books to introduce new experiences, to support and sustain children's interest and develop their understanding of the world
- enhance children's creativity and imaginations by making sure more resources are available, to enable them to fully develop and extend their ideas.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector spent the majority of inspection time observing the children in the nursery as they played.
- The inspector sampled children's information and development records.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and registered provider.
- The inspector talked to parents to obtain their views about the nursery.
- The inspector and manager completed a joint observation.

### Inspector

Jennifer Devine

## Inspection findings

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

The learning environment offers children a broad range of activities across most of the areas of learning. Children enter the nursery and settle quickly into the nursery routine. They enjoy a range of Montessori activities. They know to choose an activity and learn about tidying away afterwards and returning the equipment to its correct shelving. In addition, there is a good mix of other play resources, which particularly supports the younger and newer children to settle. Children take part in a planting activity where they fill the pots with soil so they can plant some bulbs. Staff support children's communication by questioning children and repeating words. However, the staff do not consider using books to introduce and support this new learning experience. As a result, children quickly lose interest and move on in their play. Children also freely enjoy using pens, chalks and paints. However, there is a lack of more creative resources to fully extend children's creativity and imagination.

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

Staff have a secure understanding of the purpose of the key person system. Children receive lots of reassurance as they separate from their parents or carers and settle in. Staff begin the day by having circle time and sing their hello song. This helps children to settle as they get to know the routine, helping them to develop their confidence in a group. The nursery is welcoming with plenty of space for children to move around in. Children have use of a playroom and a hall which enables them to make choices to either sit quietly or to be more energetic. The children also play outside every day and enjoy walks around the church grounds. Children's self-help skills are developing well as they help to prepare the fruit and learn how to cut the fruit into pieces. This supports their skills for the future and helps them learn about having a social time as they sit together.

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

There is a strong management team and all staff benefit from clear leadership across the nursery. The provider and manager have a strong desire for maintaining quality in the teaching and care provided. Staff are well supported by good systems for supervision, where further training opportunities are identified, which promotes continuous development. Staff know and understand their responsibilities for safeguarding children and the procedures to follow for reporting any concerns. Staff have good links with the staff at the local children's centre who support the nursery with organising information events for parents. Staff also have good links with their other Montessori pre-school. This supports children when they move up to the pre-school, after their third birthday.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY282316
<b>Local authority</b>	Barnet
<b>Inspection number</b>	833588
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	24
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	34
<b>Name of provider</b>	Khadijeh Nanji
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	18 May 2009
<b>Telephone number</b>	0208 203 6581

Step By Step Montessori Nursery registered in 2004. It operates from a church hall located in Edgware, in the London Borough of Barnet. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 12 noon, term times only. The nursery receives nursery funding for three-year-olds. The nursery follows the Montessori educational philosophy. The nursery employs six staff, of whom five staff hold relevant childcare 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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