

First Steps Twerton Children's centre

Woodhouse Road, Bath, Avon, BA2 1SY



Inspection date

20 July 2015

Previous inspection date

21 November 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	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 meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Managers and staff know children well and provide exciting and interesting experiences, which help enable them to take an active part in their learning. This results in children making good progress from their individual starting points.
- Managers and staff use positive behaviour management strategies to teach children to be kind, caring and tolerant of each other. As a result, children's behaviour is good because they are aware of the rules and boundaries of the setting.
- Managers and staff foster very good relationships with parents. They keep them well informed about their children's progress. Parents share what they know about their children's learning and interests at home, which benefits each child's ongoing care, learning and development.
- Leadership is good. Managers and staff have met all previous recommendations and use self-evaluation processes effectively. This helps to monitor continuous improvement, which has a positive impact on the children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There are occasions when staff do not always build upon their already good teaching and use all opportunities to skilfully question children. This means children are not always encouraged to come up with their own explanations and ideas.
- Managers and staff do not always enable children to access a wide range of resources to support their emerging writing skills, particularly when they wish to write outdoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to take part in early conversations and to be actively involved in sharing their thoughts and ideas
- extend the range of resources available to children, so they are supported even further to develop their ideas and emerging writing skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning, both inside and outside.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector met with the setting leaders and spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the assistant manager.
- The inspector spoke to a parent during the inspection and took account of their written views.

Inspector
Julie Swann

Inspection findings

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

Teaching is good. Staff carefully observe and assess children's learning, while ensuring children's interests and next steps are fully considered. This helps to prepare children with skills in readiness for school. Children's mathematical skills are developing well. For example, children enjoyed counting, identifying and finding shapes and recognising big and small objects. This results in children being very focused and engaged as they thoroughly enjoy what they are doing. Staff support children's communication and language skills generally well. For example, children listened to stories and sang familiar songs, while staff paused to encourage them to fill in the missing words. In addition, they use props, labels and pictures to support children's memory and anticipate key events. As a result, children develop good concentration and listening skills. However, occasionally, opportunities to ask questions and involve children further in discussions are overlooked.

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

Staff have an effective key-person system in place, which helps to ensure children form secure attachments and develop positive relationships. As a result, children are confident and happy in their play. Children enjoy healthy, fresh and nutritious meals, such as fresh fruit and vegetables, and they follow good hygiene routines. For example, they independently managed their own personal needs in relation to their age. This helps support children's health and emotional well-being. Children engage in a range of physical activities outdoors. For example, they walk through tunnels, ride small-wheeled toys, run, balance and jump. This means staff help children to manage and understand acceptable risks during play. However, children have few opportunities to access a wide range of creative materials outdoors. This slightly reduces their opportunities to practise their emerging writing skills when they wish to in all areas of the setting.

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

All staff have attended safeguarding and child protection training and have a very good understanding of the procedures to follow should they have concerns about a child's welfare. As a result, children are kept safe. The management team monitors the overall quality of teaching and children's learning well. For example, it monitors children's progress at every level to support any gaps in learning. Staff are well qualified and continue to increase their knowledge through training to improve their skills and abilities. They then use this knowledge to enhance the quality of care and learning for children. As a result, outcomes for children are good. Staff have established secure links with the other settings and agencies. This helps to complement children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY268656
Local authority	Bath & NE Somerset
Inspection number	987788
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	106
Name of provider	First Steps (Bath)
Date of previous inspection	21 November 2011
Telephone number	01225 444791

First Steps Twerton Children's Centre registered in July 2004 and is situated in Bath and North East Somerset. The setting is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm for 50 weeks of the year. There are 18 members of staff, 17 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. An internal advisory teacher, who holds Qualified Teacher Status, also supports the setting.

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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

