

# Ruskin House

48 Herne Hill, London, SE24 9QP



## Inspection date

14 August 2015

## Previous inspection date

16 May 2012

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is outstanding

- The quality of teaching across the nursery is outstanding. This is because staff have an in-depth understanding of how children learn and develop. As a result, all children make excellent progress considering their starting points, ages and capabilities.
- Support for children's move to school is exceptional. Staff teach children to be extremely independent and confident, which prepares them extremely well.
- Through everyday activities and routines, staff encourage children to express their emotions in a calm and respectful manner. As a result, children learn to behave remarkably well. This significantly supports their well-being and self-esteem.
- Children fully understand about healthy eating. Staff and children have interesting discussions and highlight healthy options. Staff meet children's nutritional needs well.
- The high number of qualified staff, together with exceptional teaching skills, has had a significantly positive impact on children's learning experiences. This means children are extremely motivated and eager to learn.
- Staff regularly update their safeguarding knowledge and awareness of child protection procedures. As a result, they have an excellent understanding of their responsibilities. Finger print entry helps keep the premises secure at all times.
- The management and staff establish outstanding relationships with local schoolteachers and other professionals. This enables them to share excellent information to promote consistency of children's care and learning.
- The manager demonstrates inspirational leadership and management skills. She has made outstanding improvements from the last inspection. As a result, children and staff benefit from her high-quality teaching and considerable childcare expertise.

## **What the setting needs to do to improve further**

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

- continue to develop the use of the excellent outdoor and natural environments to significantly support those who learn best outside.

### **Inspection activities**

- The inspector had a tour of the premises and carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed teaching and learning activities in the indoor and outside learning environment.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies and procedures, children's development records and planning.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, staff and parents spoken to on the day of inspection.

### **Inspector**

Zalihe Mehmet-Emin

## Inspection findings

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

Staff plan stimulating, extremely exciting and focused activities based on children's interests and stage of development. Children create highly impressive individual and expressive artwork to show their creativity. For example, they enjoyed painting butterflies using bright colours. They were very excited as staff encouraged them to explore fully what happens when they mix paint. Older children moving to school have excellent opportunities to use various tools and engage in interesting activities to encourage their early writing skills. Staff model exceptional communication skills; they listen to children with genuine interest and extend language through skilful questioning. Staff are extremely effective as they engage and involve parents in children's learning and development. They share excellent two-way information that contributes to children's assessments and ensures children continue to make incredible progress.

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

The highly effective settling-in process and the intense key-person systems ensure that staff have an exceptional understanding of children's individual needs. As a result, children settle extremely quickly and develop a significantly strong sense of belonging. This nurtures their emotional well-being. Children have many wonderful opportunities to learn about the world around them and enthusiastically explore the outdoor learning environment. They love to play hockey, ride bikes and run energetically. This continually helps develop their excellent physical skills and promotes their strong understanding of healthy lifestyles. Overall, staff use the natural environment extremely well for those children who learn best outdoors.

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

Management have an impressive understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. This has a highly positive impact on the effectiveness of the nursery. Regular supervision to assess the quality of staff practices, and to identify and address training needs is excellent. The management team leads a culture of constant reflection, highly effective self-evaluation and commitment to improve. For example, recent training on how to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities resulted in exceptionally strong relationships with other early years professionals. Staff adapted daily activities, routines, and the learning environment to meet the needs of all children. Management and staff take an active part in monitoring how efficiently they support children's learning and development. They effectively monitor the highly individualised learning plans and assessments extremely well. As a result, they swiftly identify and close any learning gaps.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	144706
<b>Local authority</b>	Lambeth
<b>Inspection number</b>	836698
<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>	60
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	60
<b>Name of provider</b>	First Steps (London) Limited
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	16 May 2012
<b>Telephone number</b>	02077374317

Ruskin House Nursery School registered in 1995 and is located in Herne Hill, in the London Borough of Southwark. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 7am to 7pm, for most of the year excluding bank holidays and one week at Christmas. There are 23 members of staff, including four apprentices. Of these, there are 10 early years professionals and one qualified teacher.

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