

Stepping Stones Community Pre-School

Court de Wyck Primary School, Bishops Road, Claverham, Bristol, BS49 4NF



Inspection date

16 November 2015

Previous inspection date

23 January 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The management team are highly successful in maintaining high standards and driving further improvements. The manager works directly with the children and staff providing an excellent role model. She provides effective support and coaching for staff to ensure the quality of teaching is exemplary.
- Staff provide excellent support to promote children's independence. Children are enthusiastic learners and staff have high expectations that all children can achieve their goals. Staff provide skilful guidance enabling all children to make outstanding progress.
- Staff have exceptional partnerships with parents. This has a significant impact on children's well-being and development. Parents comment that the communication with the pre-school is excellent and this helps them to support their children at home.
- Staff carry out regular and precise assessments of children's learning and development. They have an exemplary knowledge of each child's needs and how they can meet them.
- Staff plan an exciting and stimulating range of activities that motivate children to learn. They organise the excellent range of resources extremely well. Children make independent choices and have outstanding opportunities to develop their own ideas. Following their last inspection, staff have extended opportunities for children to have greater use of technology equipment.
- Staff provide a highly nurturing environment. They help children to manage their behaviour and feelings effectively and develop extremely positive relationships.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use all opportunities to help children recognise shapes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with children, staff and parents, and took account of written feedback left for the inspection and the pre-school's self-evaluation.
- The inspector checked safeguarding information and the premises.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies and procedures, information for parents, children's development records and planning.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and carried out a joint observation.

Inspector

Elaine Douglas

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The management team understand their responsibilities and meet the requirements extremely well. The management of the setting is excellent. Through highly effective self-evaluation, they identify the most significant actions to continue improving outcomes for children. The manager organises and runs training sessions for staff and workshops for parents, on topics such as the different ways to involve boys in early writing. This has had a very positive impact on influencing staff practice. Safeguarding is effective. Staff attend child protection training and have an excellent understanding of the procedures to follow should a child be at risk of harm. The manager has very effective systems to monitor children's development and ensure any gaps close quickly. She works extremely well with other agencies to ensure all children reach their full potential.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children are inquisitive, confident and eager to learn. Staff provide excellent support to challenge and extend their development. For example, excited by the arrival of a waste collection lorry, young children discussed how many bins were being collected. They identified what the workers were wearing and why, and what they would use the different equipment for. Children enthusiastically take part in exciting activities. For example, they persevere with tasks, such as practising their cutting skills or sharpening a pencil and recognise rhyming words during stories. They develop their ideas through skilful support, such as suggesting how to get a ball out of a tree. Staff have an outstanding awareness of how to use activities and routines to promote every area of children's development. However, they occasionally miss opportunities to help children recognise shapes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff gain excellent information to enable them to have a comprehensive knowledge of children's individual needs. Children quickly settle and staff help them to recognise their feelings and manage them appropriately. Staff have reorganised their routines to meet the needs of all the children due to an increase in the number of two year olds. For example, younger children have their snack first while older children benefit from small group work, without distractions. Staff use excellent systems to enable children to make choices. They skilfully encourage children to be involved in all the daily routines. Children learn excellent health and safety practices. They use knives safely and learn about healthy eating and hygiene as they prepare their snack, for example.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make rapid progress from their starting points when they first attend. The staff team provide outstanding support for children's well-being and learning. Children are highly independent learners and develop excellent skills in readiness for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY429428
Local authority	North Somerset
Inspection number	822782
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	34
Name of provider	Stepping Stones Community Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	23 January 2012
Telephone number	07977808132

Stepping Stones Community Pre-School registered in 2011 and is run by a committee. The pre-school operates from Court de Wyck Primary School in Claverham, North Somerset. They open during term-time only from 9am until 3.10pm Monday to Wednesday, and from 9am to 1.10pm Thursday and Friday. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. There are five members of staff. The manager holds Early Years Professional Status, three staff hold an early years qualification at level 3 and one member of staff is working towards a qualification at level 3. They are supported by a part-time kitchen assistant.

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 reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

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

