

Step By Step Nursery

15 Chandler Street, London, E1W 2QL



Inspection date	25 May 2016
Previous inspection date	15 August 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children play in a stimulating and welcoming environment and are keen to join in. They have opportunities to develop their imagination and to extend their creative thinking.
- Staff have high expectations of children and what they can achieve. Children gain good communication, physical, personal, emotional and social skills. They typically make good progress and are prepared for their future learning.
- Children behave well. They are confident, secure and happy. Staff support them well when they are ready to move into a different room in the setting. They form warm, caring relationships with them and support their emotional well-being effectively.
- The manager reflects accurately on the setting's strengths and identifies areas where further development will help to improve outcomes for children.
- The setting has improved since its last inspection. The manager effectively checks on staff's performance, such as through regular supervision arrangements. Staff develop their expertise and knowledge. For example, they attend training to help develop their teaching to a good level.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff are not always confident in developing aspects of children's early reading skills.
- Information is not always gathered from parents about their children's achievements at home, to help staff plan their day-to-day learning more effectively.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance staff's expertise in teaching early reading skills to help prepare children for their future learning
- gather and use information from parents about their children's achievements at home to help staff plan for their learning at the setting.

Inspection activities

- The inspector took into account the views of the parents and carers spoken to on the day.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children as they engaged in activities.
- The inspector viewed documentation during the inspection, such as the setting's policies and procedures, safety risk assessments and children's registers.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and staff during the inspection about children's care and the activities provided for them.

Inspector

Anneka Qayyum

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager implements effective policies and procedures to support the safety and welfare of children. Staff understand their responsibility to protect children and know how to report any welfare concerns. Through setting higher expectations, the manager and staff have succeeded in improving aspects since the last inspection. For example, the manager seeks the views of parents, staff and children to help her identify areas to improve. She has recently improved the buggy storage area, for example, following feedback from parents. The manager implements good systems to check on children's progress. She uses the information effectively and staff provide extra help for any children who may need it.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff teach children well. For example, they question, encourage and, when appropriate, demonstrate how to do things. Staff know their key children well. They make regular observations of them to help identify their learning needs. They plan suitably challenging activities to extend children's learning in most areas. Children enjoy writing on pads in the home corner, helping to develop their early writing skills. They also explore with different shaped beads and develop their early mathematical language. Staff provide regular updates about children's learning to help parents at home and are seeking ways to encourage a two-way flow to aid planning. Staff form good partnerships with other professionals to support children's learning and development. For example, they work effectively with early years specialists from the local authority, seeking their guidance to support children with additional needs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well. Staff consistently encourage good behaviour and act as positive examples of how to treat others. Children understand what is expected of them and follow the nursery rules well. For example, most children are keen to help at tidy up time. Children eat healthy, balanced foods and have opportunities to be active, such as when playing outside. They learn about healthy lifestyles and staff support their physical well-being successfully.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress. They develop good physical skills. For example, babies learn to walk confidently and toddlers learn to use tools with control. Older children develop their fine motor skills well, such as when using tools in the water tray. Children speak clearly and listen carefully. They gain good mathematical skills and generally good reading and writing skills to help them be ready for the next stages of their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY371767
Local authority	Tower Hamlets
Inspection number	1028575
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	87
Name of registered person	Step By Step Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP910352
Date of previous inspection	15 August 2013
Telephone number	02075532880

Step by Step Nursery registered in 2008. It operates within the Wapping Children's Centre in Wapping, in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm all year round. The provider receives funding to offer free early education for children aged three and four years. The setting employs 22 members of staff, of whom 13 staff hold a relevant childcare qualification at level 3 and six at level 2.

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