

# Stepping Stones St George

227 Kingsway, St George, Bristol, BS5 8NT



## Inspection date

11 August 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

## The quality and standards of the early years provision

**This inspection:**

**Good**

**2**

Previous inspection:

Not applicable

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

- Although the nursery has recently opened, the management team has created a captivating and exciting environment, both inside and outside.
- Children part easily from their parents when they arrive. They thoroughly enjoy their time at nursery, are keen to see their friends and eager to join in with activities.
- Staff know the children well and plan a wide range of interesting activities for them. This results in children making independent choices about their play.
- Babies flourish in the warm and welcoming environment. Skilled staff are particularly sensitive to their needs which results in children being happy, settled and confident.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Systems to monitor how staff can further improve the quality of teaching, are in their infancy.
- Staff do not consistently provide older children with clear expectations of behaviour during boisterous play.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop systems to monitor staff interactions with children and provide useful feedback about how they can further improve the quality of teaching
- provide opportunities for older children to learn about rules and limits to help them understand how to play safely.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the range of activities provided for children in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with children, staff, the area manager and the nursery manager at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector reviewed a range of documentation including policies and procedures, evidence of staff suitability and children's assessment records.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents.
- The inspector observed interactions between staff and children throughout the inspection.

### Inspector

Vanessa Redmond

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team is committed to continually improve the quality of care and learning. There are effective systems in place for staff to assess and monitor children's learning and all staff have an accurate overview of children's progress. The manager knows what works well. However, systems to monitor the quality of teaching are in the early stages. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are knowledgeable about child protection matters and they know what action to take if they have a concern about a child's welfare. Staff induction prepares staff well for their roles. Good recruitment procedures ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Thorough risk assessments and effective security systems ensure children are kept safe. Staff get on well and work closely with each other. Partnerships with parents are very good. Parents are kept informed on all aspects of their children's care, learning and development. Parents are extremely complimentary about the nursery and the positive impact staff have on their children.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan meaningful activities and experiences using high-quality resources that focus on children's interests. Consequently children delight in joining in with the activities provided. For example, pre-school children are absorbed and thoroughly enjoy a familiar story using puppets and props. They eagerly anticipate what is going to happen next and staff skilfully involve younger children so they are included too. Staff use resources imaginatively. For example, thoughtful staff who work with toddlers take a genuine interest in children's experience of travel and make pretend passports and tickets for them to use in their role play. This helps children make sense of the world around them. Children are very happy. They form strong relationships with staff which gives them a good sense of belonging.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are kind and calm and are good role models. Children cooperate, listen to each other and take turns. Boys and girls of all ages play together and generally the older children look out for the younger children. Children settle easily and quickly. This is because staff gather all relevant information from parents about their child's stage of development and home routines. Staff ensure that babies have things that are familiar to them so they feel comfortable in a new place. Children enjoy healthy and nutritious food. Mealtimes are calm and sociable occasions and children learn good table manners. Staff sit with the children, give them sufficient time to eat their food and support them to learn how to use a knife and fork.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. They are familiar with all staff who work in the nursery and are well prepared for their move up to other rooms and on to school. Children take part in daily physical activity, which helps them use their muscles and contributes to their overall health and well-being. Children learn to be independent and feel a great sense of pride when they master a new skill.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY543310
<b>Local authority</b>	Bristol City
<b>Inspection number</b>	1109808
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	60
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	36
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Little Acorns (South West) Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP904196
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable
<b>Telephone number</b>	0117 9612615

Stepping Stones St George was registered in April 2017 and is based in St George, Bristol. It is one of several nurseries owned by Little Acorns (South West) Ltd. The nursery opens from 7.30am until 6pm each weekday throughout the year. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are six members of staff who hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above.

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