

Stepping Stones Community Nursery

Ground Floor, Melbury House, Richborne Terrace, London, SW8 1BA



Inspection date

14 September 2017

Previous inspection date

28 January 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Staff manage children's behaviour well. For instance, they are calm, fair and consistent in their approach. Children behave well.
- Staff provide an interesting variety of activities based on all areas of learning. Staff plan well and use regular assessments of children to determine their next steps for learning. Children are suitably challenged and make good progress.
- Staff value the partnerships they have with parents. For instance, they give them regular updates on children's progress in different ways, such as through regular meetings, reports and daily conversations.
- Staff are supervised well and their support and training needs are reliably identified. For instance, staff attended a course on managing behaviour which led to more successful ways to do this.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff have not fully developed ways for children to understand and use technology.
- Staff do not consistently make the most of opportunities for children to enhance their independence skills, particularly at snack times and mealtimes.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of opportunities for children to learn to do things for themselves, to support their personal development further
- develop more ways for children to learn about and use technology to support their understanding of the world further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager of a group activity.
- The inspector observed the interaction between staff and children, and spoke with children when appropriate.
- The inspector tracked the progress of several children.
- The inspector looked at some documentation and held a discussion with the manager.
- The inspector considered the views of staff, parents and children during the inspection.

Inspector

Jennifer Beckles

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager monitors the nursery well. For example, she spends a lot of time working in the group rooms directly observing and feeding back to staff to help them find ways to improve their practice. The manager has a good overview of children's progress and readily puts plans into action to offer additional support to children who need it. The manager evaluates the nursery regularly and has identified ways to make practice stronger. She has met previous recommendations and children now have good personal care routines. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a clear knowledge and understanding of the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. The manager takes children's safety very seriously. She ensure that all staff are thoroughly checked before employment and helps to minimise accidents by carrying out checks covering all areas of the nursery.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff successfully teach children good early literacy skills. For example, they sing songs and read stories in both Spanish and English, and children have good rates of fluency in both languages. Staff read stories about opposites and children understand and use terms, such as 'hot' and 'cold', correctly. Staff make the most of opportunities to support children's early mathematical skills, for example, counting objects as they play and teaching them the names of shapes as they complete puzzles. Staff provide children with exciting creative activities. For instance, children use all their senses as they explore different textures, materials and colours of natural objects. Children enjoy a broad range of physical challenges in the outdoor area where they crawl, climb, jump and balance.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children thrive well in this lovely, caring and nurturing environment. Staff have close relationships with the children and highly value each child as an individual. Staff interact very positively with children, smiling and speaking in gentle, warm tones. Children settle well and feel secure and confident. They are motivated to learn. Staff teach children how to behave with care and caution in their environment. For instance, they discuss road safety with children and carry out regular fire drills where children know how to leave the premises efficiently in emergencies. Staff support children's social skills well. For example, children say 'please' and 'thank you' and treat each other with respect and kindness. Staff teach children healthy habits, such as by providing well-balanced meals and daily opportunities for good physical challenges.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learn about others from different backgrounds and respect them. They are articulate and confident communicators. Children have good concentration skills and engage well with tasks. They explore space and balance as they build with different construction sets. Children learn valuable skills for their future learning and move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY398669
Local authority	Lambeth
Inspection number	1085906
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	1 - 3
Total number of places	14
Number of children on roll	8
Name of registered person	Stepping Stones Community Nursery
Registered person unique reference number	RP529228
Date of previous inspection	28 January 2015
Telephone number	0207 820 3800

Stepping Stones Community Nursery opened in 2009. It is located in Vauxhall in the London Borough of Lambeth. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm, all year round, except on public bank holidays. There are four staff members, including the manager. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications, including one member of staff who holds qualified teacher status. The nursery accepts funding for free early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It is a bilingual nursery.

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 2017

