

Footsteps Preschool

Speedwell Methodist Church, 378 Speedwell Road, Bristol, BS15 1ES



Inspection date	20 March 2018
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

- The manager ensures strong support, supervision and training opportunities for staff, which effectively improve practice and outcomes for children.
- Staff help children learn well through a good mix of individual play and adult-led activities. Staff tailor activities to match children's interests and best support what they need to learn next.
- The manager and staff constantly reflect on their practice and make effective, carefully planned improvements. They have successfully addressed areas that they need to develop, such as improving children's technology skills.
- Staff work hard to continually build on their strong relationships with parents, to engage them further in encouraging their children's learning at home.
- Staff provide good support to encourage children's personal, social and emotional development. Children settle quickly into the pre-school and form trusting relationships with staff. This supports their emotional well-being effectively.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently promote a wide range of activities for children who prefer to enjoy outdoor play.
- At times, some children's play becomes loud and distracting, which makes it harder for other children to maintain focus and engage deeply in activities and interactions with staff.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the outdoor area to incorporate further learning experiences, which are rich and varied to highly stimulate all children, particularly those who prefer to learn outdoors
- consider ways to improve the strategies to manage children's behaviour, so all adults are consistent.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the manager at appropriate times during the inspection and in a scheduled meeting.
- The inspector observed children's activities and staff teaching inside and outside.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including a sample of children's records, planning and assessment records, and checked the suitability of staff to work with children.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, staff and parents spoken to on the day of the inspection, and of the pre-school's self-evaluation.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Dominique Allotey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leaders implement good systems for monitoring and tracking the overall progress of different groups of children. This helps ensure any gaps in children's development are identified and closed. Parents are complimentary about the care and learning their children receive and say that they feel encouraged to give their feedback. For example, parents complete questionnaires, sharing their thoughts about the pre-school. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a good understanding of the pre-school's procedures and know what action to take if they have a concern about a child's welfare. Recruitment and induction procedures are robust and help to ensure that staff are suitable for their roles.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a broad range of activities and experiences that stimulates, motivates and excites children to learn. They know what interests children. For example, children are interested in dinosaurs, so staff set out dinosaur resources for them to freely access. Staff work closely with parents when children first start, to understand the skills children already have and also use accurate assessments to monitor children's ongoing progress. Staff know when additional support may be required and cater for children's individual needs well. This improves outcomes for children and helps all children make good progress. Staff work in effective partnership with schools to help prepare children for their future move to school. This also helps children to learn specific skills to support their future learning. For example, they learn to recognise their names in print and develop physical skills in preparation for writing.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and have a good understanding of the routine. For example, they sit down and concentrate well at welcome time. Staff encourage children to do as much as possible for themselves. Children demonstrate good levels of independence as they play, dress and wash their hands. Children have daily opportunities to access the outdoors. Overall, they thoroughly enjoy being in the fresh air and participating in active play. This promotes their health and well-being. Staff promote healthy eating. They offer children a range of healthy snacks and help build parents' knowledge about healthy and well-balanced packed lunches. Children enjoy opportunities to learn about the local community. For example, they get involved in church events and go on local trips.

Outcomes for children are good

All children develop the skills they require for their future learning and their eventual move on to school. They make good progress from their starting points. Children develop a good understanding of social rules in preparation for starting school. For example, they take turns in conversations and know not to interrupt someone when it is their turn to speak. Children develop good knowledge of their emotions and this helps them show empathy and get on well with others.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY495424
Local authority	Bristol City
Inspection number	1031007
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	31
Name of registered person	Emma Jane Harris
Registered person unique reference number	RP905403
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07712450650

Footsteps Preschool registered in 2015. The setting is situated in the Speedwell area of Bristol and operates from a church hall. The setting is open between 9am and 3pm on Monday to Friday, during term time only. The setting employs six staff, three of whom, including the manager, have relevant qualifications at level 3. The setting is in receipt of government funding to provide free early education for some children aged two, three and four years.

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