

First Steps Children's Nursery

119 Bunbury Road, BIRMINGHAM B31 2NB



Inspection date	31 July 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 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

The provision is good

- Leaders monitor closely the progress that individuals and groups of children make. Staff use observations of children's learning effectively to provide individual learning plans for each child. Children make good progress and gain a broad range of skills that prepares them for their future learning, including starting school.
- Leaders monitor the quality of teaching effectively and provide staff with good support to extend their professional skills. For example, they have recently completed training to support children's early mathematical understanding further. New staff receive thorough inductions to ensure that they are clear about their roles and responsibilities.
- Staff provide a stimulating learning environment that motivates children to play and learn, particularly in pre-school.
- Children gain good social skills and play together harmoniously. For example, they develop their own games, such as playing hide and seek. They learn to cooperate with each other and overcome disagreements. Staff are friendly and attentive to children's needs. Children form close bonds with them.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff working with babies do not maximise opportunities for children to hear and use the additional languages that they speak.
- At times, staff do not identify how children's learning can be extended even further, to encourage them to investigate and develop their critical-thinking skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for babies to hear and use the different languages that they speak
- identify when to extend children's learning opportunities further, to support them to think through their ideas and solve problems for themselves.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practices and the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the managers, staff, children and parents.
- The inspector read some of the setting's documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector sampled children's development information and records.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the managers.

Inspector
Anne Clift

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a secure knowledge of how to keep children safe. They have a clear understanding of the process to follow should they need to report any child protection concerns. This includes effective procedures relating to confidentiality. Leaders ensure that staff make effective risk assessments to enable children to play safely. Ratios are maintained and children are supervised well at all times. Staff report all accidents to parents, and leaders review these carefully. Leaders review the provision effectively and have a clear vision for the future. For example, they extended opportunities for children's outdoor learning, following requests from parents and children. Parent partnerships are strong. Staff regularly exchange information with them, to support children's continued learning at home. They work closely with health professionals to plan effective support for children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff help children to develop their physical skills. Babies cruise around furniture and pull themselves up to access activities that interest them. Two-year-olds crawl through tunnels and learn how to ride bicycles. Pre-school children use scissors carefully and practise throwing and catching skills with balloons. Staff provide opportunities for children to gain an understanding of the world. Children enjoy hunting for insects and learn about the different life cycles. Children develop their awareness of the needs of people in the wider community, such as visiting elderly people. Older children draw characters for a puppet show. They make marks with clay and learn to write their names. Babies and two-year-olds are keen to use tools to make marks in dried cereals and flour.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff prioritise children's good health. Children learn about making healthy food choices and about good hygiene. They gain good levels of independence. Older children learn to manage their toileting needs confidently. They recognise when they are hungry and need to rest. Babies practise feeding themselves. Staff support children's emotional security successfully. They benefit from a gradual settling-in process when they change rooms and are successfully helped to prepare for the move to school.

Outcomes for children are good

Overall, children progress well with their communication and language. Older children demonstrate good conversation skills and express their views confidently. Babies and two-year-olds happily join in with action rhymes and songs. Children develop their mathematical understanding as they explore concepts, such as full and empty. Older children explain in detail how they can buy '10 balloons for £40'.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY539601
Local authority	Birmingham
Inspection number	1142025
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	110
Number of children on roll	130
Name of registered person	The Midcounties Co-Operative Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900862
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	0121 475 1509

First Steps Children's Nursery registered in 2016. The nursery employs 33 members of childcare staff. Of these, 32 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2, 3 or 6. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years.

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.ofsted.gov.uk. 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 and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, 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 1231, 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 monthly newsletter for more information and updates: www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

