

Stepping Stones Pre School Kirk Ella

The Scout Hut, Mill Lane, Kirk Ella, Hull HU10 7QY



Inspection date

14 November 2018

Previous inspection date

15 September 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is good

- Staff establish extraordinarily positive partnerships with parents and keep them extremely well informed about their children's learning. For example, they routinely share children's learning experiences and helpful tips and ideas, such as how to support children's speaking and listening skills at home.
- Staff complete regular and accurate observations and assessments of children's learning. Overall, they plan opportunities that focus specifically on what children need to learn next. Children are excited, motivated and engaged during activities. This contributes to the good rates of progress that they make.
- The staff team provides a nurturing and welcoming environment that welcomes children and their families. The small team works exceptionally closely together and communicates well with each other to meet children's needs. Children form excellent relationships with their key person and other staff, which helps them to feel safe and secure. Staff are friendly and approachable and offer reassurance to those who need it.
- The management team and staff demonstrate a strong commitment to making ongoing improvements. The self-evaluation of the pre-school is detailed. They seek the views of staff, parents and children, and set clear targets to make positive changes.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff do not provide enough challenge during activities for older and more able children to make the best possible progress in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide older and more able children with consistently higher levels of challenge during activities, so that they make more rapid progress in their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Eileen Grimes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of how to keep children safe and the procedures to follow should they have a concern about a child's well-being. The provider implements effective recruitment and vetting arrangements to ensure staff are suitable to work with children and have a clear understanding of their roles. Staff benefit from regular supervisory meetings and training. The manager and provider support staff effectively to develop their knowledge and skills. They monitor children's development regularly to identify and close any gaps in their learning. Using the children's progress information, they carefully identify how additional funding is to be used to support progress and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff sensitively observe children's learning as they play alongside them to identify what they need to learn next. They assess children regularly to ensure any gaps in learning are identified and addressed. Staff build on older children's speaking and listening skills well. When playing in the opticians, staff give simple instructions for children to follow and introduce children to new words. They take delight in making appointments and writing lists, supporting their early mark-making skills. Staff encourage social skills by asking questions and discussing ideas for play together. Children have fun practising their physical skills and they develop physical agility, balance and coordination in the challenging outdoor environment. Staff capture children's enthusiasm for storytelling using props and instruments. Children remember lines from the story and join in with joy and confidence. Children learn to share, take turns and be kind to one another as they play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children very clearly demonstrate that they feel happy and relaxed in the pre-school. They are very confident and self-assured, and they develop secure attachments with staff, initiating conversations and enjoying jokes together. Children behave extremely well. Staff are excellent role models. They speak to children clearly and with respect, and children work very well together. The very consistent and committed approach from all staff ensures children have a full role with their friends at pre-school. Children learn about healthy lifestyles. They can play outside, they access drinking water independently and they prepare and enjoy healthy snacks.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from the time they start at pre-school. They listen attentively and follow instructions well. Children count, recognise numerals and carry out simple calculations. They learn to identify and write the letters in their name and take pleasure in choosing their favourite books. Children enjoy activities that prepare them with the skills they need for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY476015
Local authority	East Riding of Yorkshire
Inspection number	10069327
Type of provision	Sessional day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	14
Name of registered person	Stepping Stones Pre-School Kirk Ella & Willerby Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP533548
Date of previous inspection	15 September 2014
Telephone number	01482651284

Stepping Stones Pre School Kirk Ella registered in 2014. The pre-school employs five members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including one with qualified teacher status. The pre-school opens on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9am until midday, and on Tuesday from 9am to 1pm, during term time only. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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