

# Emmanuel Stepping Stones Playgroup

Emmanuel Community Rooms, Emmanuel Complex, Thorpe Drive, Waterthorpe, Sheffield S20 7JU



<b>Inspection date</b>	27 November 2018
Previous inspection date	1 July 2014

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Staff at this small and friendly playgroup provide a positive start to children's learning experiences. They have very good relationships with parents and keep them well informed about children's progress.
- The manager and her deputy work well with the staff team and management committee to accurately evaluate the strengths of the playgroup and set clear targets for further development.
- Staff plan imaginative and engaging activities based on a good understanding of the children's needs and interests. The staff work well with other professionals to help children overcome any delays in their progress.
- Children achieve well and are prepared for their future learning. Staff work closely with local schools to help children make a smooth transition on to nursery.
- Children are well behaved and eager to learn. Staff help them to play well together and to patiently take their turn, for example, through group singing games.
- Staff make sure that children play in a safe and clean environment. There are secure procedures to make sure that staff and volunteers are suitable to work with children.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Procedures for continually improving staff's performance are not as sharply focused as possible.
- Staff do not consistently promote children's self-reliance and independence.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further the arrangements to support staff to continually enrich their teaching skills
- strengthen strategies for promoting children's independence and self-reliance.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the playgroup manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager. He looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.

#### Inspector

Andrew Clark

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are well trained in procedures for child protection, including identifying signs that children may be at risk of extremist influences. The manager ensures their knowledge is up to date through regular one-to-one discussions and staff meeting discussions. The staff thoroughly review any risks that children may face and conduct regular fire practices. The manager regularly reviews the quality of overall provision systematically and draws on the views of staff, parents and children. Staff use training opportunities, such as visits to other settings, to further strengthen the quality of their work. There is a strong partnership with parents. They are very appreciative of the guidance they have been given on, for example, children's emotional development and support for toilet training.

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

Staff make good use of detailed information from parents to accurately assess children's individual starting points and provide a springboard for their later learning. They provide varied activities to help children develop their early social and communication skills. For example, they help children to increase their familiarity with a range of traditional songs and stories to support their language development. Staff use praise well to help children recognise their own achievement and build their confidence. Children are engaged by attractive resources. For example, children enjoy creating tracks and roadways for their toy vehicles with colourful construction blocks. Staff encourage children to try new experiences, such as reaching higher levels on their climbing frames or trying a range of foods when they participate in activities to mark different cultural events.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children build strong relationships with their key person from the start of their playgroup experience. This contributes to the smooth start that children make in their educational experiences. Staff support children's emotional well-being and the management of their own behaviour effectively. They successfully help children to develop their social skills and gain confidence in their own ability. They promote children's understanding of fairness and equality through, for example, encouraging the sharing of resources and participation in group activities. Staff help children to be physically active and to enjoy a healthy lifestyle. For example, they encourage children to be aware of the impact of healthy eating on their bodies and provide a good range of fruit and vegetable snacks.

### Outcomes for children are good

All groups of children make positive progress and are well prepared for starting nursery. Children learn to communicate their ideas and to work together well. They make good progress in their speaking skills and staff provide prompt support to any children showing delay in this aspect of their learning. Children learn to control pencils, crayons and other media for a range of creative activities with increasing accuracy which supports the development of early writing skills. They sort objects by size, shape and colour in their construction and role-play activities. Children listen well to stories, songs and rhymes and learn to follow instructions.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY401401
<b>Local authority</b>	Sheffield
<b>Inspection number</b>	10069730
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional day care
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 3
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	16
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Emmanuel Stepping Stones Playgroup Committee
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP905925
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	1 July 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	07801 349 756

Emmanuel Stepping Stones Playgroup registered in 2009. The playgroup employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or higher, including two at level 4. The playgroup is open on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday between 9am and 11.30am, term time only. The playgroup provides funded early years education for two-year-old children.

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