

Little Stepping Stones Day Nurseries

Argento Tower, Mapleton Road, London SW18 4GA



Inspection date	25 June 2019
Previous inspection date	23 June 2015

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		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff offer children a good variety of interesting activities to support their learning. They observe children regularly and make good use of this information to provide children with suitable challenges. Children make good progress.
- Children behave in safe ways. For example, staff teach them good road safety routines and how to move around the nursery with care and caution.
- Staff work well with parents and provide regular updates on their children's development. They provide effective ways for parents to support their children's learning.
- The manager supports staff effectively. She meets with staff regularly and observes staff practice to provide advice on ways to improve. For instance, staff attended a course on supporting children aged two years, which led to more effective behaviour management.
- The manager evaluates all areas of the nursery's performance and has clear ideas on how to improve things for the future.
- Staff do not routinely plan opportunities for children aged three years and over to experience a broader variety of textures and materials in order to extend their creative skills.
- In some instances, children are left waiting at changeover times in the daily routine, namely mealtimes and when going outdoors. Children then become distracted and restless.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further opportunities for children aged over three years to experience a wider range of textures and materials, to extend their creative skills further
- review organisation of daily routines to ensure that children are not left waiting during changeovers of activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity with the manager.
- 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 held a discussion with the manager and reviewed relevant documentation.
- The inspector considered the views of parents and staff during the inspection.

Inspector
Jenny Beckles

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff know what to do if they have concerns about a child's welfare. They work hard to keep children safe. Staff supervise children at all times and carry out daily health and safety checks in all areas of the nursery to reduce the risk of accidents. The manager has a comprehensive recruitment process which involves a series of background checks to ensure that staff are suitable for their roles. The manager monitors the nursery effectively. For example, she carries out regular reviews on planning and assessment, and closely checks progress to ensure best outcomes for all children, including those who might be falling behind in their development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff help children to gain secure communication and language skills. For instance, they sing action songs, and children learn new words. Staff question children effectively to support their language development. Staff teach children good early mathematical skills. For example, older children learn names of different shapes and are able to use and name numbers well. Staff support children's early literacy development effectively. For instance, younger children enjoy short, lively stories and older children can recognise their name. Staff provide good opportunities for children to develop a wide range of physical skills, such as balancing, climbing, throwing and catching balls, and other challenging activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff have caring, trusting relationships with children. They value each child highly and interact with them warmly. For instance, they greet each child individually in song and smile at them. Staff get to know children's likes and dislikes to provide an environment in which children settle well. Children gain good independence skills, such as serving themselves at lunchtime and learning to dress themselves. Staff support younger children to gain these skills.

Outcomes for children are good

Older children have good turn-taking and sharing skills. Staff support younger children to gain these skills. They respect themselves and others from diverse backgrounds. Children are confident and motivated to learn. They are able to operate simple technology independently. Children have good understanding of the natural world. They learn valuable skills to support the next stage of their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY467575
Local authority	Wandsworth
Inspection number	10106435
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	2 -
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	83
Name of registered person	Little Stepping Stones Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP907320
Date of previous inspection	23 June 2015
Telephone number	02088706824

Little Stepping Stones Day Nurseries opened in 2013 and is located in the London Borough of Wandsworth. The nursery is open on each weekday, from 8am to 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year, except on bank holidays. There are 15 staff, including the manager. Of these, one holds a level 5 qualification in early years, one holds a level 4 qualification in early years, four hold a level 3 qualification in childcare, and four hold a level 2 qualification in childcare. The nursery receives funding for free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

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