

# Stepping Stones Montessori Nursery Ltd

39 Kitto Road, London, SE14 5TW



## Inspection date

6 July 2015

Previous inspection date

11 June 2012

<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
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Children of all ages and abilities progress well in their learning. For example, younger children develop good communication skills and older children develop good early reading and writing skills.
- Staff develop precise plans for children's learning based on accurate assessments of their abilities and interests. Consequently, children's play is meaningful and effectively contributes to their overall development.
- Staff and parents work in close partnership to settle children well when they start. Parents share details about children's routines, likes and dislikes which help staff to effectively meet children's unique needs and ensure their emotional well-being.
- Staff effectively promote children's good health. They provide nutritious snacks and meals and provide regular opportunities for children to play outside and visit the local play park.
- The manager has close links with school staff and shares information with them to support children effectively as they move to school.
- The manager is committed to continually improve the quality of the provision. She models good teaching skills and supervises staff effectively to identify their training needs to raise outcomes for children.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not fully promote children's understanding of technology.
- Staff miss some opportunities to further enable children to celebrate their work and achievements and build on their self-esteem.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the range of resources and activities for children to explore the use of technology so they further build on their knowledge and understanding of the world around them
- review ways to enable children to celebrate their achievements and develop their self-esteem.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and their interactions with staff.
- The inspector carried out meetings with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents, children and staff.
- The inspector viewed a sample of documents, including children's developmental records.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

### Inspector

Geetha Ramesh

## Inspection findings

### **How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good**

Children enjoy trying new and challenging activities because they are confident in their own abilities. For example, young children explored walking up and down a slope, encouraged by staff. Older children experimented rolling a hoop up and down the slope and learned to think about which was harder, rolling the hoop or walking up the slope. This helps children to build on their knowledge and understanding of the world around them. Children are consistently challenged and motivated in their learning. For example, children placed beanbags on weighing scales in order to work out how many they had on each side and how many they would need to make the scales balance. This develops children's problem solving skills and promotes their mathematical development. Staff provide a range of media and materials for children to freely explore and develop their imaginative skills; for example, children enjoy creating their own butterflies with paint.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good**

Staff and children develop positive relationships with each other. Children are confident to approach staff for cuddles and reassurance. Staff encourage children to actively participate in care routines; for example, children go off and find their own nappies, ready for being changed. Older children enthusiastically care for the environment, for example, by cleaning the table after messy play. Therefore, all children develop independence. Children behave well, they play together and learn to share and take turns. This promotes their social skills.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good**

The manager has good procedures to monitor and identify gaps in children's learning and ensure that staff plan well to meet children's individual needs. Therefore, all children make good progress. She seeks the views of staff, parents and children to effectively identify priorities for improvement. As a result, the quality of the provision is continually rising. The manager and the staff team have a secure understanding of the signs and symptoms of child abuse. They demonstrate a clear knowledge of how to report concerns about children's well-being. Safe recruitment procedures mean that all staff are vetted to confirm their suitability to work with children. Parents speak very positively about the staff and express the view that their children are very happy to come in. The manager and the staff have a secure understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	129056
<b>Local authority</b>	Lewisham
<b>Inspection number</b>	840788
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	29
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	31
<b>Name of provider</b>	Stepping Stones Montessori Nursery Limited
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	11 June 2012
<b>Telephone number</b>	020 7277 6288

Stepping Stones Montessori Nursery registered in 1996. It is situated in the Telegraph area in London Borough of Lewisham. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm all year round. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education to children aged three and four years old. The nursery employs six members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate childcare qualifications, including two members of staff who hold early years degrees. The nursery follows the Montessori educational philosophy.

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