

Two Steps Pre-School

St. Johns Methodist Church, Price Street, SMETHWICK, West Midlands, B66 3QU



Inspection date	24 November 2016
Previous inspection date	11 January 2013

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The management team expertly oversees the quality of teaching and learning. The well-qualified staff have an excellent understanding of how children learn. They use a wide range of highly successful teaching strategies which ensures children make very rapid progress.
- The management team skilfully analyses and reflects on the progress of individual and specific groups of children and compares them across the setting. This helps staff to plan an exceptionally stimulating learning environment that ensures all children make outstanding progress.
- Partnerships with parents, other professionals and schools are exemplary. The management team regularly seeks the views of parents, children, staff and the local authority advisers. This helps to identify precise and sharply focused targets which drive forward ongoing improvements in order to offer all children optimal challenge and support.
- Children who have special educational needs or disabilities make excellent progress from their starting points. Staff work with other professionals to expertly identify, monitor and secure any additional support that children need.
- Children's social and emotional development are supported exceptionally well. All staff listen intently to children. They take the time to get to know them and to reflect on and understand what children say. Children form secure emotional attachments with staff through an extremely effective key-person system and settling-in procedure.
- Staff get to know parents and decide together the important moral values that both parties want children to learn. Staff are exceptionally good role models for the children. Children's behaviour is excellent and they show empathy and a high regard for their friends.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance further, parents' already excellent involvement in children's care and learning and assess the impact this has on the outcomes for children so that they continue to maintain the highest possible levels of achievement.

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 looked at children's assessment records and the planning documentation.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of an activity with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as children's records and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and children spoken to on the day and from information included in the pre-school's own parent survey.

Inspector

Linda Yates

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are highly skilled at identifying and minimising any potential risks to children. The management team successfully implements a highly comprehensive range of in-depth procedures and policies which support children's health, safety and well-being. There is a wealth of information about children's care and learning displayed for parents in the five main languages spoken in the pre-school. The management team has identified the potential to further enhance parents' already excellent involvement in children's care and learning. They plan to explore even more ways to involve parents and to monitor the impact this has on children's outcomes. Staff receive regular individual support meetings where they can seek expert advice and discuss their future training requirements. They receive regular in-house training and their practice is monitored to ensure children receive exceptionally good teaching in order to promote their excellent progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff provide a wealth of inspiring opportunities that engages and motivates children. Toddlers enjoy playing in the sand and water. They focus intently as they dab the watery sand with a sponge and squeeze the water out. This is one of the ways that children learn to develop the physical skills of dexterity and coordination needed for early writing. Older children skilfully extend their building techniques as they try to recreate the brick and stick houses for the animal characters in their story. During such activities staff skilfully develop children's communication skills by introducing new vocabulary and using questions that encourage children to think. Children who speak English as an additional language are exceptionally well supported. Staff learn key words in the child's home language. They use these, along with visual aids, to expertly help children to communicate and to develop their use of English. Children are extremely well prepared for school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Meals and snacks provided for the children are highly nutritious and well balanced. Children have excellent opportunities for daily outdoor play. Toddlers push along and climb into the ride-on toys. Older children experience physical challenge and take manageable risks in their play as they use the scooters and tricycles. Children have excellent opportunities to strengthen the positive impressions they have of their own cultures and faiths, and those of others in their community. They explore a range of festivals, such as Eid and Diwali.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make rapid progress from their starting points and are extremely well prepared for school. They concentrate for long periods of time and are effective and motivated learners. Older children thoroughly enjoy the daily literacy sessions. They are confident at naming letters and correctly recognise the initial sounds in words. Children are extremely confident and self-assured. They make their own choices and establish their own ideas as they rapidly learn new concepts and solve problems.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY451188
Local authority	Sandwell
Inspection number	1066165
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	West Smethwick Enterprise Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP901347
Date of previous inspection	11 January 2013
Telephone number	0121 558 3475

Two Steps Pre-School was registered in 2012. It is one of four settings managed by West Smethwick Enterprise Committee which is an unincorporated voluntary organisation. The pre-school employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds early years professional status and another holds early years teacher status. A further two members of staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 6 and three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 8.45am until 3pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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