



**First Steps Bath**



**THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE MARK**  
TRADING FOR PEOPLE AND PLANET

## 'Making a Mark'

### Mark Holder Social Impact Declaration

#### First Steps Bath

First Steps Bath is a charity and social enterprise working alongside children and families to enhance communities and to change lives.

We support local communities to prosper by nurturing children and their families to be confident, active citizens.

Through the provision of high quality, inclusive childcare and support for families, our mission is to work in collaboration and partnership and ensure that whole communities thrive.

The Social Enterprise Mark criteria includes a requirement for all applicants and renewing Mark Holders to answer a set of social impact questions, which illustrate how they are striving to meet their social/environmental objectives.

Below are examples of how **First Steps Bath** is making a mark, striving to create a positive impact on people and planet.

#### **Reducing the cycle of poverty**

Our mission is to alleviate poverty through access to high-quality early years education.

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First Steps' pedagogy for children mitigates poverty's impact through rich learning experiences and attuned high-quality care. The flexible and affordable offer to families supports a return to education, training and employment. We aim to reduce the cycle of poverty in the communities in which we operate.



## Supporting local communities

Our community nurseries provide inclusive, flexible learning for children under 5, focusing on those with Special Educational Needs. We support children to attend over 11 hours of preschool education; the number of hours that research has shown most benefits their education.

Our free meals project ensures that every child receives a hot, nutritious meal when they attend nursery, enabling them to engage in exciting activities and learning experiences on offer to them.

We encourage local people to train and work at First Steps because we know that they have an intimate understanding of the reality of bringing up children in the area.

## Measures of support provided

- 70 children have had free meals while attending First Steps Community Nurseries
- 63% of three and four-year-old children attended more than 11 hours of childcare each week all year round.
- 241 children have attended a First Steps Community Nursery or BOP Early Years Specialist Service over the past year (2020-2021). 114 of these children had an additional plan to support their development.
- Over 50% of staff live in the local community.

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