

# Post House Nursery

Post House Nursery, 15 High Street, Brimington, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S43 1DE



## Inspection date

7 April 2015

Previous inspection date

16 January 2009

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Requires improvement</b>	<b>3</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Requires improvement	3
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting <b>does not meet legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Staff do not always adapt activities to meet children's individual learning needs. Consequently, activities sometimes lack challenge and do not always motivate children to learn.
- Management and staff do not robustly monitor children's progress across the seven areas of learning. Therefore, they cannot easily identify any gaps in children's progress and seek the appropriate support.
- Children do not have opportunities to build on their knowledge and recognition of letters and numbers in the outdoor area.

### It has the following strengths

- Staff have a sufficient understanding of their responsibilities to safeguard children. This ensures children are kept safe from harm.
- Staff are caring and provide a nurturing environment. As a result, children feel a sense of belonging and behaviour is good.
- The management use appropriate self-evaluation to identify areas for improvement.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

### To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- routinely plan activities to take into account children's individual learning needs and interests, and adapt them to ensure children are challenged and motivated to learn
- develop the monitoring of children's progress across the seven areas of learning to identify where they may need extra support.

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

- adapt the outdoor environment, so that it is rich in letters and numbers so children develop their recognition of numbers and letters to the fullest potential.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playrooms and the outside areas.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the provider and the manager of the provision.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working with children, the provider's self-evaluation form and improvement plan.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers from information included in the setting's own parent survey.

### Inspector

Ruth Moore

## Inspection findings

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

Children enjoy investigating the learning environment. Babies explore age-appropriate toys at their own pace, and develop their confidence while interacting with each other. Staff carry out limited observations and assessments. They use the information gained to plan for the next steps in children's learning. However, children lose interest in planned activities, because staff do not always adapt activities for children, so that their individual learning needs and interests are fully challenged. For example, during a baking activity some children have to wait a long time for their turn and get bored. Therefore, they are not fully supported to be engaged or concentrate on tasks. Consequently, children are not consistently making good progress across the areas of learning. Partnerships between parents and staff are generally good. Children's starting points are identified with the help of parents, before their children start at the nursery. Parents are encouraged to share what their children are learning at home with the nursery staff by completing information sheets about children's achievements. This has a satisfactory impact on children's ongoing learning.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children requires improvement**

Children form appropriate attachments with the nursery staff and their peers. This supports their social skills so they are sufficiently prepared for the move to school. Children are provided with healthy options at snack and meal times, and maintain effective personal hygiene routines, such as washing their hands before eating and baking. Consequently, children are learning how to be healthy. The outside area allows children to get fresh air and enjoy physical play on bikes, trampolines and in the mud kitchen. However, resources in the outdoor area do not provide opportunities to extend the children's recognition of letters and numbers in different environments.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement**

The management and staff have a sufficient understanding of the learning and development, and safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Recruitment procedures are satisfactory. All staff are given appropriate support to improve their knowledge of child development through supervision meetings and training. Staff observe each other's practice to help identify ways to improve their teaching practice to benefit all children. However, management and staff do not track children's progress against the expected outcomes for their age. This means gaps in children's learning are not identified and the appropriate support for them to achieve their milestones is not put in place.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	206254
<b>Local authority</b>	Derbyshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	865407
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 17
<b>Total number of places</b>	34
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	68
<b>Name of provider</b>	Michael Ian Fowler
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	16 January 2009
<b>Telephone number</b>	01246 559990

Post House Nursery was registered in 1998. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff who all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, from 8am to 6pm, and is closed on bank holidays, and during the period between Christmas and the new year. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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