

Positive Steps Childcare

201-203 Normanton Road, DERBY, DE23 6US



Inspection date

1 December 2016

Previous inspection date

2 February 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the 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

- The manager and deputy manager are ambitious for all children to learn in a stimulating environment and to achieve well. They have high expectations and set a clear direction for the nursery's future development. As a result, the nursery has improved well since the previous inspection.
- Children of all abilities, including those who speak English as an additional language, achieve well during their time in the nursery. They acquire the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to succeed in their future education, including starting school.
- The staff help children to develop good social and personal skills. Children learn to cooperate and play and learn together. They are well behaved and learn to follow instructions. They understand the importance of good health and hygiene procedures.
- The staff accurately assess children's learning and development needs. They plan stimulating and imaginative activities to engage children's interests and promote their curiosity.
- Staff establish good relationships with parents. They keep them well informed about their children's progress. Parents appreciate the warm and welcoming environment the staff provide.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Leaders do not fully compare the progress made by all groups of children to reduce any gaps in their achievement.
- Staff do not consistently help children to think for themselves and fully express their own ideas and understanding.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build further on arrangements for comparing the progress made by different groups of children and checking that all groups receive the support they need to increase the potential for them to achieve at the highest possible levels
- develop further the opportunities for children to think deeply and express their reasoning and understanding.

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 completed joint observations with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. He looked at relevant documentation, such as children's records and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Andrew Clark

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager has developed a strong leadership and staff team who share the drive for consistent improvement. There are good procedures for delegating responsibility and supporting staff in their roles. Procedures for staff's professional development are now good and have improved well since the previous inspection. For example, staff make good use of training to develop assessment and planning and they implement what they have learnt to enhance children's learning. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Most staff have first-aid training and know how to respond to an accident. Staff are well deployed to supervise children. All staff have attended child protection training and they ensure their knowledge and understanding is up to date.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff accurately assess children's achievements. Staff now make effective use of assessments to help children make good progress towards the next steps in their learning. Resources are colourful and stimulating and children are keen to play with them. Staff help children to listen to others and to follow instructions. For example, they listen carefully to the number of steps they need to make in a well known children's game. Staff encourage children to use the skills they are acquiring in imaginative ways. For example, children use their balancing, moving and counting skills in their Christmas dances. Staff help children to develop their curiosity and explore the world around them. Staff encourage children to try different experiences, for example, when they explore handling cones of ice and decorate them with different coloured paints.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff set a good example for children to follow. There is a calm, yet busy atmosphere indoors and outside. Children are polite and friendly. They learn to take their turn and cooperate with each other. Staff help children to be tolerant towards those who hold different ideas and beliefs to their own. Children and their parents get to know their key person well. Children settle in quickly when they first start. Staff promote children's knowledge and understanding of healthy lifestyles and good hygiene procedures. They help them to make healthy choices and to try new food and to be physically active. Children enjoy singing their handwashing song, for example, to remind them to wash carefully and thoroughly.

Outcomes for children are good

Children achieve well from their individual starting points. Children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress in their communication skills. They develop a good knowledge of popular stories and join in with repeated phrases in their favourite nursery rhymes. Children develop their knowledge of shape and measure when they compare the shapes they create in their sand play. Older children make good progress in their knowledge of letters and the sounds they make.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY370198
Local authority	Derby, City of
Inspection number	1039665
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	17
Name of registered person	Positive Steps Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP907337
Date of previous inspection	2 February 2016
Telephone number	01332 739776

Positive Steps Childcare was registered in 2008. The nursery employs seven childcare practitioners. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or higher, including one at level 4. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. It supports children who speak English as an additional language.

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