

Inspection of Post House Nursery Ltd

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

Inspection date: 7 October 2019

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Inadequate
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children of all ages enjoy the freedom and space they have when they play in the well-resourced and interesting outdoor area. They play out in all weathers and are enthusiastic as they talk to staff about the rain making the slide wet and more slippery. Children play happily alongside each other and invite staff and other children to join in with the fun they have.

Staff provide safe and clean play spaces. Children develop a good sense of how to stay safe. Babies use furniture to steady themselves as they learn to walk. Older children remember the rules about how to use the climbing frame and slide safely. Children behave well and make good independent choices about the activities they want to join or the toys they want to play with.

Children are valued as individuals by staff. Staff plan ambitious activities that they know will test and expand children's skills and knowledge. For example, older children are asked to recall and describe activities they have done in the past. There is a strong focus on speech and language development. Children hear a wide range of interesting vocabulary. For example, in discussions about space and the universe, staff carefully explain words children might not understand. In addition, staff speak to all children using properly structured sentences and sensitively support children to do the same.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Staff have a secure understanding of how young children learn. They plan activities designed to build on what children already know and can do. Babies use their fingers and hands to make marks in paint on a table top. They also use large paintbrushes and water to paint on the floor outdoors to help them to understand how they can also make marks using writing tools. However, occasionally staff do not consider how younger children are able to access the outdoor play equipment.
- Staff provide opportunities for children to learn new skills. For example, led by a staff member, older children use a tablet to take photographs of their favourite activity and learn how to send their picture to be printed. This builds on children's existing learning and supports children to discover new ways to use technology.
- The manager is good at motivating staff. She values their ideas and input. The manager supports all staff, and especially new staff, to develop their teaching skills. For example, she has organised a training session to support staff when observing children. This has helped staff to plan activities more successfully.
- Staff work closely with parents to identify the next steps for their child's learning. They plan effectively to support children to meet their next steps.

However, they do not always include information from parents to enhance children's wider experiences of the world.

- Staff accurately assess children's development. The manager checks children's progress to identify any areas of concern. She takes prompt action to work with staff and other professionals to put in place extra activities to help children to catch up with their peers.
- The manager uses funding effectively. For example, she arranges for external professionals to visit the nursery and run a weekly parent and child story session. This is to help parents and children to develop a love of books and reading, and develop children's speaking and listening skills.
- Children have freshly prepared and well-balanced meals. All children's dietary requirements are taken into account and well catered for.
- Children understand the nursery routines and what is expected of them. Older children know that they must line up to be counted at the end of outdoor play so that staff know everyone is safe. When they are asked by a staff member to complete a task, older children glow with pride and take care completing this.
- All children play very well alongside each other. Staff working with babies praise them if they hand a toy to another child. This helps to develop babies' understanding of sharing. Older children who need help to understand how to take turns are reminded what this means by staff who explain carefully about other people's needs and feelings.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff all have a sound understanding of the nursery's policy and procedures for safeguarding. They know the signs of possible abuse, and of wider safeguarding issues such as the possibility of children being exposed to extremist ideas. The manager works well with other agencies, such as the local authority and health visitors. She keeps other professionals informed about children they are involved with. Children's safety is a priority at the nursery. The manager reviews accident records on a monthly basis and takes effective action to reduce any identified risks.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- increase staff understanding of how to include information from parents to plan for children's wider experiences within the curriculum
- improve access to outdoor play equipment for younger children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	206254
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	10103942
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	1 to 5
Total number of places	34
Number of children on roll	42
Name of registered person	Post House Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP535293
Telephone number	01246 559990
Date of previous inspection	11 April 2019

Information about this early years setting

Post House Nursery Ltd is in Brimington, Chesterfield and registered in 1998. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 7 and seven hold a relevant qualification at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, closing for one week at Christmas. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Joanne Smith

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching and the impact it has on children's learning in all nursery rooms and the outdoor area.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation of an activity with the manager to assess the impact of teaching on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to a parent and took their views into account.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and the owner of the nursery.

We carried out this inspection 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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