

Inspection of The White House Nursery and Preschool

149 Ladies Mile Road, Brighton BN1 8TB

Inspection date: 20 February 2023

Overall effectiveness

Inadequate

The quality of education

Inadequate

Behaviour and attitudes

Inadequate

Personal development

Inadequate

Leadership and management

Inadequate

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children receive reassurance from staff that helps them to settle at the start of their session. However, there are breaches of requirement relating to staff qualifications and them having relevant experience. This means that children become confused as they are not always in their usual room with the same staff. There are further significant breaches of requirements, and this does not ensure children's health, safety and welfare. Babies thoroughly enjoy being creative and using their senses to explore. For example, they use their hands to touch the paint and make marks. However, staff do not understand what they want children to learn from the activities.

Children receive the support they need to understand the needs and feelings of others. For example, staff help them when children take something away from them. They talk to the children about how to manage conflicts. This helps them to begin to gain an understanding of managing their behaviours and to be kind to others. However, not all staff are aware of babies' and children's next steps in learning. This limits staff's ability to plan and provide experiences and activities that challenge children to develop skills. The special educational needs coordinator has a secure understanding of her role. She recognises the needs of those children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and how best to support them.

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

- The provider does not ensure that they meet the ratio requirements relating to staff qualifications. The manager holds an appropriate qualification. However, they do not have enough staff to ensure that fifty% of the rest of the staff have at least a level 2 qualification. This is due to recent staff leaving the setting with immediate effect. Also, the provider has not made sure that at least half of the staff caring for babies have received training that specifically addresses the care of babies.
- The manager has a clear intention for the curriculum and of what she knows the children need to learn next. However, staff lack the understanding of their roles and responsibilities. This limits their understanding of the importance of high-quality interactions with children. Staff are not secure in their knowledge of assessing risk or safeguarding children.
- The manager follows safer recruitment practices. However, the new provider has not submitted required information to Ofsted to enable suitability check to be completed. The provider does have a Disclosure and Barring Service check and does not work unsupervised with children. This minimises the impact on children's safety and welfare.
- Staff do not consistently promote children's good health. For example, they replace babies' dummies after these fall on the floor and give babies cups back

after these too have been on the floor. This does not prevent the spread of infection or illness.

- Staff understand babies' routines, enabling them to meet their daily needs. However, not all staff are aware of babies' and children's next steps in learning. This limits staff's ability to plan and provide experiences and activities that challenge children to develop skills.
- Staff provide activities that children enjoy taking part in. However, staff do not all have a clear understanding of what they want children to learn from the activity. When staff move away from activities and another takes over, they explain a different learning intention. This shows a lack of direction and does not enable children to gain skills that they need to learn next.
- Children have opportunities to develop physical skills. They enjoy being in the garden, where they explore the environment on a daily basis. Children show their increasing small-muscle skills, such as when they thread large buttons onto laces. Staff encourage them to succeed. This helps children to persevere and develop a sense of achievement.
- Children enjoy singing sessions. They take items from the box and then sing songs that link to the items. For example, they pull out a fish and sing 'One, two, three, four five, once I caught a fish alive'. The member of staff introduces new words, such as 'mammal' and they explore what this means.
- Lunch is a social occasion, where children sit with their friends and staff are on hand to give support. They discuss where their food comes from such as growing potatoes. Children explain that they would need to water the potatoes for them to grow.
- Staff give parents daily feedback about the activities their children have taken part in. They use an online system to provide information for parents about their child's levels of development. Parents comment that staff work in partnership with them to detail any potential gaps in learning and help them to seek additional support from professionals.
- Staff receive regular supervision sessions with the manager. Staff report that the manager is fully supportive of their well-being, such as amending working hours and patterns.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Staff attend regular training on safeguarding, including differing cultural practices and government guidance. However, not all staff understand the procedures for referring allegations and the role of the local authority designated officer. This does not ensure children's welfare in the event of a concern about a member of staff. The manager follows safer recruitment procedures. Staff are not always aware of potential risks to children. For example, they are not alert when young children move away from the table with a metal spoon in their mouth. This shows a lack of knowledge of childcare practices and does not maintain children's safety.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

**To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and
Childcare Register the provider must:**

	Due date
ensure that at least half of all other staff, excluding the manager, hold at least an approved level 2 qualification	20/03/2023
ensure that at least half of all staff have received training that specifically addresses the care of babies	20/03/2023
ensure that all staff have up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding issues, specifically in relation to allegations	06/03/2023
ensure that information is provided to Ofsted to enable required suitability checks to be completed	06/03/2023
provide support and training for staff, including those who are temporary, so that they understand their roles and responsibilities	20/03/2023
ensure that staff promote the good health of children consistently	06/03/2023
ensure that staff are aware of potential risk that arise and that they take immediate action to remove these	06/03/2023
ensure that staff understand the learning intentions for the activities they plan and that this is understood by all staff	20/03/2023
ensure that all staff understand what children need to learn next, so that when interacting with children they can support this.	20/03/2023

Setting details

Unique reference number	2654074
Local authority	Brighton and Hove
Inspection number	10278354
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 at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	95
Number of children on roll	78
Name of registered person	The Madisson Agency Limited
Registered person unique reference number	2654075
Telephone number	07909835154
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The White House Nursery and Preschool registered in 2021. It operates from a converted property in Brighton, East Sussex. The nursery is open from 7.30am to 6.30pm each weekday throughout the year. There are 17 staff working with the children, of whom seven hold appropriate qualifications. The provider receives funding to provide early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Helen Penticost

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the manager and had taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk together and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector spoke with staff and interacted with children.
- Parents shared their views about the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about the provider.

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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