



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY272338

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 08/09/2004  
Inspector Name Glynis Pratchett

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Noah's Ark Childcare Centre  
Setting Address 13-15 Brunswick Road  
Plymouth  
Devon  
PL4 0NP

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The partnership of Noah's Ark Childcare Centres 04575783

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Noah's Ark Childcare Centres  
Address 30 Looe Street  
Plymouth  
Devon  
PL4 0EA

## ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality and standard of day care. When making judgements, inspectors have regard to how well the provider meets the National Standards for under Eights Day Care and Childminding. A list of these is attached. The report identifies strengths and areas for improvement.

This inspection report must be made available to all parents.

### Information about the setting

Noah's Ark Childcare Centre is a Neighbourhood Nursery, in Brunswick Road on the edge of Cattedown and in very close proximity to Plymouth city centre. The building itself is arranged over two floors. The ground floor comprises two large activity rooms, a cot room and a prep room for the babies. On the first floor, there are four rooms; two are large activity rooms, the other two will be used as specific educational rooms and for out of school care. A lift is installed so that there is disabled access to all areas of the building. The outdoor area is secure and contains a range of play equipment for the children to use.

The nursery is registered to provide care for 50 children from birth to 5 years. It also provides after school care and holiday play schemes for children up to the age of 12. There are currently 51 children on roll, including 5 funded 3-year-olds. The nursery can support children with special educational needs and children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery is open from 08:00 to 18:00 hours Monday to Friday, all year round.

There are 11 members of staff, 7 staff have NVQ level 3 equivalents, 3 staff have NVQ level 2 and one staff member is completing her NVQ level 2. Two staff have the baby practitioner training with another staff member starting training soon.

The nursery receives support from the Plymouth Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

### How good is the Day Care?

Noah's Ark Childcare Centre (Brunswick Road) provides good quality care for children.

Staff are well qualified and a programme of on-going training ensures they are regularly improving and updating their practice. They work well together as a team supporting each other in different rooms when needed. The excellent registration arrangements ensure staff know who is in the centre. The comprehensive operational plan details all the documentation needed for the smooth running of the centre and mainly works well in practice. The premises are newly opened and refurbished to a high standard. The rooms can be used flexibly and are accessible to all the children. There is a secure outdoor play area. The excellent range of toys and

resources help to create a stimulating environment for all children.

Children are cared for in a very safe environment. Staff are very risk aware and they regularly monitor sleeping babies and toddlers. Risk assessments and fire drills are carried out on a regular basis. There are good procedures in place for health and hygiene. Staff are aware of children's dietary needs and bottled water is available throughout the day. Staff actively promote equality of opportunity. At the moment there are no children attending with special needs. Staff have a good understanding of child protection procedures and these are shared with parents.

Staff plan a wide range of activities for all children and babies that cover all areas of their development. Staff have regard to 'Birth to Three Matters' when planning activities for younger children. Children behave very well and appear happy, confident and actively engaged in their play. All children are included in all activities.

The centre works very well in partnership with parents. The key worker system means parents have regular contact with a named member of staff about their child's care and welfare needs. A contact book ensures parents have detailed information about their child's day.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

Not applicable.

#### **What is being done well?**

- Staff have very good relationships with the children and they know them very well. This ensures children are settled, happy and developing well. Children play well together and share toys and resources.
- There are excellent systems in place to ensure the safety of all children. Staff are vigilant about the safe arrival and collection of children.
- Children are provided with healthy and nutritious meals that are cooked on the premises. A varied menu ensures children's dietary requirements are well catered for.
- The baby room is very well staffed, resourced and organised. Babies are happy and given lots of good quality care, attention and stimulation.
- The Centre is very well adapted to include disabled children. The environment is warm and welcoming, and includes facilities that ensure privacy for children when required and they have access to all the play areas in the building.
- Staff provide a varied range of activities, resources and play opportunities to develop children's learning and progress in all areas of their development. Staff are interested in what the children say and do and they respond attentively to their needs.

#### **An aspect of outstanding practice:**

The baby room offers an exceptional range of well planned play opportunities for babies and toddlers using very good quality and imaginative resources (Standard 3).

**What needs to be improved?**

- contingency arrangements for staffing
- the range of resources that promote positive images of disability.

**Outcome of the inspection**

Good

**CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION**

*All registered persons must comply with all conditions of registration included on his/her certificate of registration.*

*As a result of this inspection conditions of registration have been imposed / varied / removed and a new certificate of registration will be issued.*

**WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?**

**The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection**

Std	Recommendation
2	Ensure contingency arrangements for staffing are operational.
9	Ensure that children have an appropriate range of resources that promote positive images of disability.

## **SUMMARY OF NATIONAL STANDARDS**

### **STANDARD 1 - SUITABLE PERSON**

*Adults providing day care, looking after children or having unsupervised access to them are suitable to do so.*

### **STANDARD 2 - ORGANISATION**

*The registered person meets required adult: child ratios, ensures that training and qualifications requirements are met and organises space and resources to meet the children's needs effectively.*

### **STANDARD 3 - CARE, LEARNING AND PLAY**

*The registered person meets children's individual needs and promotes their welfare. They plan and provide activities and play opportunities to develop children's emotional, physical, social and intellectual capabilities.*

### **STANDARD 4 - PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT**

*The premises are safe, secure and suitable for their purpose. They provide adequate space in an appropriate location, are welcoming to children and offer access to the necessary facilities for a range of activities which promote their development.*

### **STANDARD 5 - EQUIPMENT**

*Furniture, equipment and toys are provided which are appropriate for their purpose and help to create an accessible and stimulating environment. They are of suitable design and condition, well maintained and conform to safety standards.*

### **STANDARD 6 - SAFETY**

*The registered person takes positive steps to promote safety within the setting and on outings and ensures proper precautions are taken to prevent accidents.*

### **STANDARD 7 - HEALTH**

*The registered person promotes the good health of children and takes positive steps to prevent the spread of infection and appropriate measures when they are ill.*

### **STANDARD 8 - FOOD AND DRINK**

*Children are provided with regular drinks and food in adequate quantities for their needs. Food and drink is properly prepared, nutritious and complies with dietary and religious requirements.*

### **STANDARD 9 - EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

*The registered person and staff actively promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice for all children.*

### **STANDARD 10 - SPECIAL NEEDS (INCLUDING SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES)**

*The registered person is aware that some children may have special needs and is*

*proactive in ensuring that appropriate action can be taken when such a child is identified or admitted to the provision. Steps are taken to promote the welfare and development of the child within the setting in partnership with the parents and other relevant parties.*

#### **STANDARD 11 - BEHAVIOUR**

*Adults caring for children in the provision are able to manage a wide range of children's behaviour in a way which promotes their welfare and development.*

#### **STANDARD 12 - WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS AND CARERS**

*The registered person and staff work in partnership with parents and to meet the needs of the children, both individually and as a group. Information is shared.*

#### **STANDARD 13 - CHILD PROTECTION**

*The registered person complies with local child protection procedures approved by the Area Child Protection Committee and ensures that all adults working and looking after children in the provision are able to put the procedures into practice.*

#### **STANDARD 14 - DOCUMENTATION**

*Records, policies and procedures which are required for the efficient and safe management of the provision, or to promote the welfare, care and learning of children are maintained. Records about individual children are shared with the child's parent.*