

Noah's Ark Pre-School

Princecroft Lane, Warminster, Wiltshire, BA12 8NT



Inspection date	30 April 2015
Previous inspection date	29 January 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff make children's safety a priority. They all fully understand their responsibilities to meet safeguarding and welfare requirements. They work closely with everyone involved in the provision to provide a safe and secure environment for children.
- Staff and management have a thorough knowledge of child protection issues and safeguarding concerns, meaning they are clear on the procedures to follow to protect children's welfare.
- Staff create strong bonds with their key children and their families as soon as they start at the pre-school. As a result, children develop secure emotional attachments because of the effective key-person system. This helps to build their self-esteem and motivate them to learn.
- Children develop good communication and language skills. They are expressive and confident during their play and interactions with the staff and each other.
- Staff have a good understanding of how children learn and develop. Assessment of individual children's ongoing learning is accurate, closely linked to the Early Years Foundation Stage and reflected in weekly planning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make the most of opportunities to extend children's awareness of diversity, particularly those reflecting the cultural identities of all children attending.
- Staff do not always maximise the use of daily routines to extend children's growing independence further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make greater use of opportunities to help children understand what makes them unique, so they recognise their similarities and celebrate differences in their cultural identity
- extend learning opportunities so children become more independent and take responsibility, for example, during snack times.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children both inside and outside.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sought the views of parents through discussion and questionnaire analysis.
- The inspector sampled a range of paperwork, including the self-evaluation form, children's learning journals, policies and procedures, and staff files.
- The inspector discussed the provision with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Shirelle Norris

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Staff provide a good range of activities and resources, which interest and challenge the children well. Staff observe children who need extra support and devise individual plans for structured teaching. This means all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, make good progress in their learning and development. Children recognise their names, enjoy books and stories, and learn about sounds and rhymes. This helps them acquire key skills, attitudes and dispositions they need to be ready for school. Children are excited when staff join in and hunt for bugs. Clever teaching includes mathematical learning, so children count insect legs and talk about colour, whilst learning about the natural world. Staff provide good support for children's key areas of development, although they do not extend children's learning about diversity to reflect the cultural identities, languages and heritage of all children attending.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Staff support children effectively, helping children to feel safe. They teach them to assess their own risks. Children practise evacuation drills regularly with staff so they learn how to respond in an emergency. Staff teach children to develop an understanding of healthy lifestyles and exercise through daily opportunities. Snack times are a social occasion, which allow children time to make friendships and build relationships, while feeling secure in the relaxed atmosphere. However, staff do not make the best use of all daily routines to fully promote children's emerging independence. For example, at snack time, they do not encourage children to lay the table, pour their own drinks or to select their snack.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

Management and staff value the opinions of children, parents and a range of outside agencies to help them identify and implement areas for development. As a result, there is robust and in-depth reflection, which has allowed them to address recommendations from previous inspections effectively. Annual appraisals ensure the ongoing suitability of all staff. This helps to identify training needs. Staff utilise training effectively to foster individual progress, particularly for those children with specific needs. There are strong connections with parents to promote children's learning and act on suggestions they share through questionnaires. There are also firm partnerships with other providers, where staff share children's individual learning needs. This helps to provide consistency and continuity in learning for the children. Staff work well with other professionals to support children identified with additional needs, resulting in them making steady progress in their communication and language.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY277774
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	833479
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	40
Name of provider	Noah's Ark Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	29 January 2010
Telephone number	07759211172

Noah's Ark Pre-school opened in 1991. It operates from a mobile classroom in the grounds of Princecroft Primary School in the town of Warminster. The group opens five days a week during school term time. Sessions are from 9am to 3pm. There are five staff. A qualified teacher supports the provision; all other staff have relevant early years qualifications.

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