

# Noah's Ark Childcare Centre



Green Ark Children's Centre, Leander House, Fore Street, Devonport, Plymouth, PL1 4DW

**Inspection date** 27 October 2015  
Previous inspection date 28 October 2014

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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

- Children behave well. For instance, staff have consistent expectations and praise children for good behaviour. This helps children to respect each other and to be fully engaged in learning.
- Children enjoy a rich and stimulating outdoor environment where they learn about the world around them as they explore and experiment.
- Staff liaise well with parents and other professionals. They work together well to meet children's development and learning needs effectively and consistently.
- Senior management and staff use reflective practice effectively to drive forward improvements. They have successfully addressed previous actions and recommendations and used effective self-evaluation to celebrate their strengths and identify areas for development.
- All staff attend safeguarding training and know what to do if they have any concerns about a child's welfare.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff miss some opportunities to extend further children's understanding of the world to extend their thinking and ideas.
- Staff do not always make the best possible use of the different methods they use for promoting children's early language development, including with children who are learning English as an additional language.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities to develop children's ideas to support their thinking skills, language and understanding
- make better use of opportunities for children to receive more individualised support to reinforce their developing understanding of language.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the impact of teaching on children's learning inside and outside.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, staff and planning records, as well as a sample of documentation relating to children's welfare.
- The inspector held meetings at appropriate times with the manager and carried out a joint observation.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff suitability and qualifications.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and of the provider's self-evaluation.

### Inspector

Dawn Biggers

## Inspection findings

### **Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good**

The leadership team has a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Staff reorganisation and changes to management have had a positive impact and have improved the effectiveness of the nursery. Staff work together well and feel valued. There is a strong focus on staff suitability through robust recruitment processes, professional training, supervision and monitoring of staff practice. This has improved the quality of teaching and learning, and helps to ensure any gaps in children's learning are closing. For instance, feedback from training and parents has contributed to the development of the outdoor area and increased information shared with parents about their children's day. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good awareness of how to keep children safe and ensure their welfare.

### **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good**

Staff know the children's individual skills, interests and achievements well. They complete regular observations and assessments, which are used effectively to plan for their next steps in learning. Activities are fun and group times effectively support and engage the various ages. Children are challenged to count, match shapes and confidently share their knowledge, such as that their head is similar to a ball. Babies develop good early communication skills overall. Staff respond well to their gestures and vocal sounds, and model language to develop their vocabulary. Children are eager to engage in stories and action rhymes. Staff promote children's interactions well and use props, such as a toy bear, to help their confidence and communication. Children take part in various arts and crafts activities, and experiment with early writing, increasing their fine muscle skills. For example, a pirate theme encouraged boys' early writing as they designed a treasure map.

### **Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good**

Children form close relationships with staff and their key person, which provides emotional support for their well-being. Children are settled and happy, and play and explore confidently. They benefit from frequent outdoor play and exercise. For example, babies climb and balance on soft play equipment. Children practise throwing and they collect eggs from the hen house. Children learn about nature and diversity, for example, when they go on walks to collect items for the autumn display and learn about celebrations from around the world. Staff help children to identify risks, such as slippery surfaces when it is raining, and teach them how to manage these safely.

### **Outcomes for children are good**

Overall, all children make good progress. Staff prepare children well for school and their next stage in learning. Children learn to be independent and demonstrate increasing confidence with their language and social skills.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY373884
<b>Local authority</b>	Plymouth
<b>Inspection number</b>	1030515
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	40
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	107
<b>Name of provider</b>	Noah's Ark Childcare Centres Limited
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	28 October 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	01752 565156

Noah's Ark Childcare Centre registered in 2008. It is situated within Green Ark Children's Centre in Devonport, Plymouth. The nursery operates Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm; the after school club runs from 3pm to 6pm during term time, and a holiday club runs from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery is in receipt of funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 13 members of staff, of whom nine hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above.

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