Noah's Ark Pre-School Playgroup



Corpus Christi Old Hall, Ellenborough Park South, Weston-super-Mare, Avon, BS23 1XW

Inspection date	19 January 2016
Previous inspection date	13 November 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and ma	nagement	Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and asses	sment	Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and	welfare	Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff work closely with parents, other professionals and schools to ensure they meet every child's individual care and learning needs well.
- Staff have a good understanding of how to keep children safe and the procedures to follow should they have a concern about a child in their care. They effectively identify and minimise potential risks to children.
- The management team continuously evaluates and develops the pre-school. This includes improving their indoor provision and addressing the previous recommendation.
- All children behave well. Staff are strong role models who offer lots of positive praise and encouragement, which boosts children's self-esteem.
- Staff provide exciting activities and experiences that are based on children's interests and inspire their curiosity. Children thoroughly enjoy exploring unusual objects.
- Staff assess children's stage of development accurately and use this information to identify the most effective support to help children achieve their next steps in learning. All children make good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff miss some opportunities to build on children's mathematical understanding and language during play and routines.
- Staff provide stimulating activities and resources overall. However, this is not consistent between indoors and outdoors, particularly for children who prefer learning outdoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen children's understanding of mathematics and mathematical language
- promote children's learning consistently across all areas, particularly for children who prefer learning outdoors.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed children during play indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records, confirmation of staff suitability, policies and procedures.
- The inspector talked with the children, parents, the manager and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Julie Bright

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team and staff monitor children's progress effectively. Accurate analysis of assessment ensures staff identify and respond to individual learning needs to close any gaps quickly. The management team uses effective methods to support staff in their work. Developmental points are quickly recognised and addressed. Safeguarding is effective. There are thorough procedures to ensure children's safety. Staff are well qualified and undertake regular training to help ensure they remain up to date.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know children well. They accurately observe and take into account each child's stage of development effectively. Children enjoy listening to stories and joining in enthusiastically with actions and words. Staff focus strongly on helping children who are learning English as an additional language to close any gaps in their communication skills. Staff use a variety of methods, including pictures and gestures, to support their understanding. Parents receive useful activity ideas and suggestions to help them support their children's next steps for learning at home. Partnerships with parents are effective, friendly and trusting. During weekly meetings, the management and staff team consistently and accurately evaluate the impact of their teaching, resources and activities. This helps them to make improvements. For example, they reorganised the indoor environment and resources to provide an inviting and well-laid-out space to meet the needs of the range of children attending.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children form clear bonds with staff and are confident and happy. They develop the skills required for their future learning. For example, children manage tasks independently, such as cutting up fruits for snack and pouring drinks. Children use a wide range of resources and participate in activities that promote their awareness of themselves, their families, different festivals and celebrations. Staff promote healthy lifestyles. This includes providing regular outside play opportunities and encouraging healthy choices in lunch boxes. Staff teach children about tolerance and respect. Children learn to play cooperatively, be kind to others and share.

Outcomes for children are good

Children progress well from their starting points when they first attend. They achieve the skills needed to prepare them successfully for their move to school. They are enthusiastic, confident and motivated learners.

Setting details

Unique reference number 115281

Local authorityNorth Somerset

Inspection number 825090

Type of provision Sessional provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 3 - 4

Total number of places 30

Number of children on roll 30

Name of provider

Noah's Ark Pre-School Playgroup Committee

Date of previous inspection 13 November 2009

Telephone number 01934 412735

Noah's Ark Pre-School registered in 1993. It operates in Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset. The pre-school is open from 9am to 3pm each weekday, during term time only. The pre-school receives funding to provide early education for children aged three and four years. It employs four members of staff, who all hold qualifications at level 3 or above.

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