

Noah's Ark Nursery School

Downlands Road, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 5EF



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

22 February 2016

25 March 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	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

- Managers and staff provide children with an exciting and stimulating range of development opportunities. Children develop a positive attitude towards their learning and make good progress from their initial starting points.
- All adults are positive role models. They take great care to ensure children behave well. Children grow in confidence and are kind, tolerant and respectful as they play alongside each other.
- The nursery staff work closely with parents. They provide them with regular information about their children's progress and how they can complement this learning at home. Parents speak highly of the nursery and value the opportunities they have to stay and play.
- Managers and staff have worked effectively since the previous inspection to ensure all previous actions and recommendations have been met. They evaluate and reflect on their practice and have a positive drive to continue improving outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Managers and staff do not always give children enough time to process their thoughts and formulate their answers before responding to questions that they are asked.
- Opportunities are missed to provide children with more opportunities to develop their personal independence by carrying out more small tasks for themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure children have enough time to consider their responses to questions as they develop their thinking skills, language and vocabulary
- provide children with further opportunities to gain independence by allowing them to carry out more tasks for themselves.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including attendance records, staff suitability checks, the self-assessment information, children's observation, assessment and planning records, and documentation linked to managing children's progress.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and spoke with children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Julie Swann

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Managers and staff have a good understanding of the procedures to follow if they have any concerns for a child's welfare. Furthermore, they implement robust recruitment and induction procedures and all committee and staff members have been suitably vetted. Managers carry out regular supervisions and observations of staff in order to help assess and target improvements in practice. Managers monitor and track children's development carefully. Any identified gaps are closed in a timely manner. Managers and staff are well qualified. They work as a strong team and are committed to continuous professional development. For example, they share practice ideas and access ongoing additional training to help update their skills and knowledge. Managers and staff have well-established partnerships with other settings children attend to help ensure consistency in children's individual care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Managers and staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They assess children's skills on entry and build on this information as they observe and plan activities which help to motivate children to learn. Overall, managers and staff support children's communication and language skills well. For example, they introduce new vocabulary, such as 'extinct', and children repeat and use the term 'Tyrannosaurus rex' after staff explained that this is the real name for a 'T-rex.' Children use their imagination well. For example, they invite staff to a lunch of sand soup and create complex models, such as a motor boat and rockets. Children's literacy skills are developing well. For example, they show a good interest in books and join in with staff to act out familiar stories.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children demonstrate high levels of confidence and self-esteem. For example, they are confident, relaxed, well settled and have formed secure attachments with their key person. Managers and staff support children to understand the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. For example, children recognise the importance of washing their hands and enthusiastically talk about how eating fruit makes them big and strong. Children benefit from physical exercise. They have regular access to a well-equipped outdoor space which provides suitable risk and challenge. Children learn to respect people's differences as they explore and celebrate their own cultures and beliefs and those of others.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for the next stage in their learning, including starting school. They are sociable and inquisitive and eager to try out new things, such as writing their names or experimenting as they hammer nails into wood. Children's mathematical understanding is developing well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	145998
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	1010408
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	50
Name of provider	Noah's Ark Nursery School Committee
Date of previous inspection	25 March 2015
Telephone number	01380 727203

Noah's Ark Nursery School registered in 2001 and is located within the grounds of Wansdyke Primary School, Devizes, Wiltshire. The nursery is open each weekday from 8.55am until 3pm during school term time only. The nursery employs seven members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The manager holds Qualified Teacher Status and Early Years Professional Status. Children attend from the age of two years and the nursery provides free early education to children aged three and four years.

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