

Noah's Ark Playgroup

The Church Hall, Church Hill, Kimberley, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, NG16 2HY



Inspection date

1 March 2016

Previous inspection date

14 July 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

- The manager and committee members have taken effective steps to address previous areas of weakness. They have made good use of support from the local authority improvement advisor to enhance the provision. Close monitoring of staff performance and staff training has improved the quality of teaching.
- Children make good progress given their starting points. They acquire good skills to support their future learning.
- Children behave well and learn quickly about what is expected of them. They learn to take turns and share toys. Staff manage unwanted behaviour calmly and children quickly settle back into their play.
- Children are helped to settle quickly because staff place a strong emphasis on promoting their personal, social and emotional development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Overall, staff interact well with children to support their learning. However, staff do not always make good enough use of opportunities to build on children's learning when they choose to play and learn outdoors.
- Staff do not share enough information with parents about how they can help to guide their child's learning at home.
- Not all parents are given enough information about the playgroup's healthy eating policy, in order to help them understand what to include in their child's lunchbox.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more good quality opportunities for children to extend their learning when they choose to play outdoors
- give parents more information and support to help them guide their children's learning at home
- provide parents with relevant information about the playgroup's policy on healthy eating and how they can contribute to putting it into practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the premises used by the children, including the outdoor environment.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of inspection.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and the nominated person of the playgroup's committee.
- The inspector spoke with the staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records and the planning documentation.
- The inspector looked at the evidence of the suitability of staff working in the provision and the suitability of the committee members.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Judith Rayner

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Good use of training, coaching and supervision to develop the staff's knowledge and experience has improved learning outcomes for children. Furthermore, the manager, staff and playgroup committee members understand the importance of reflecting on the service they provide. They have successfully addressed the actions set at the last inspection. The next steps for children's individual learning are clear and precise. Planning of play now takes children's interests and enjoyment into consideration well. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Robust recruitment procedures are followed correctly. All staff know what action to take to keep children safe and protect them from harm. The manager regularly reviews the activities and outcomes for children. She identifies and addresses any gaps in learning in a timely manner.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff complete regular observations and make good assessments of what children can do and what they know. Planning for each child's next steps is clear and evident in the overall activity plans. Children are motivated and engaged in their play. They enjoy cutting up fresh vegetables in the role-play area as they learn to use plastic knives safely. Staff skilfully play alongside the children and support their learning well. They are skilful in adapting the support and intervention offered to suit each child's abilities and level of confidence. Children enjoy art and craft activities. They confidently use a range of tools and resources as they eagerly create their own designs for their Mothering Sunday cards. Staff offer good support for children who speak English as an additional language to communicate effectively with others.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Relationships between children and staff are strong. Children are happy, confident and settled at the playgroup. Staff support children's emotional well-being effectively. They work well with parents to help settle new children in. They adhere to parents' requests and provide activities that they know children enjoy. Children use the outdoor play area each day. They are beginning to understand the benefits of physical exercise as a way to keep healthy. Snack and mealtimes are successfully used to promote the children's social development and self-care skills. Children show that they feel happy and have a sense of belonging in the playgroup. They are familiar with the playgroup's routines and expectations, such as helping tidy away the toys.

Outcomes for children are good

Children have good opportunities to be independent. At mealtimes they pour their own drinks and attempt to spread butter on their crackers. They put on and take off their own coats and shoes. They know where to place their personal belongings in their designated area. Children enjoy making marks using various tools and are able to recognise their written name and that of their friends. They also enjoy counting and problem solving during construction activities. Children's learning is closely monitored and any gaps are swiftly identified and addressed. Children are well prepared for the next stages in their learning, such as school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	253124
Local authority	Nottinghamshire
Inspection number	1022325
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	31
Name of provider	Noah's Ark Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	14 July 2015
Telephone number	0115 9458 553 or

Noah's Ark Playgroup was registered in 1992. The playgroup employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and two at level 2. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9.15am to 3pm, and Tuesday and Friday from 9.15am to 1.15pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. It supports children who speak English as an additional language.

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