

Noah's Ark Childcare Centre

Pomphlett Primary School, Howard Road, Plymouth, PL9 7ES



Inspection date	13 October 2016
Previous inspection date	10 June 2013

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

- Staff are good role models. They give children positive examples of how to interact and be polite. They encourage children effectively to behave well and develop secure social skills.
- The manager monitors children's progress effectively. She works well with staff to identify strengths or gaps in children's development, and seeks additional support from other professionals if necessary.
- The management team supports staff well to attend a variety of training courses that increase their teaching skills. Staff share what they learn with the team to provide consistency across the setting, such as effectively managing children's behaviour.
- Children learn well about mathematics. For example, when outdoors, staff encourage younger ones to count cars, and they talk about the different sizes with pre-school children, preparing them well for more challenging mathematical concepts as they progress.
- Children develop good physical skills. For example, they run, jump and learn to balance as they play games in the garden.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not extend opportunities for all children to learn that print can provide different types of information.
- Staff do not encourage older children to interact and engage in discussions and conversations more during mealtimes.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for all children to learn how print can provide different information
- make better use of mealtimes so that older children can interact and engage in discussions and conversations more.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to children, parents and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents, including records of staff suitability checks and children's development records.

Inspector

Tristine Hardwick

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff are clear about their responsibility to identify and report any concerns they may have about children. They understand wider safeguarding concerns, such as extreme views, and know how to report these. All staff are recruited safely and receive good ongoing support from the manager, who ensures a good level of teaching across the nursery. Self-evaluation is effective. The management team monitors all areas of the setting successfully to ensure they meet children's needs, such as supporting girls and boys in their learning needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

All staff know the children well. They provide good experiences that are challenging and enjoyable for all children. Staff working with the youngest children help them to develop their investigative skills well; for example, they encourage the children to go to the window to observe, when they hear machinery. This helps to build their interest and curiosity to learn. Older children receive a good balance of organised and independent learning. Staff allow them time to explore and work things out on their own, such as setting up train tracks, helping them to solve problems independently. Partnerships with parents are effective. Staff share good information with parents about their children, such as their general well-being and developing interests at nursery. They offer parents many opportunities to contribute to the targets they set for children, to provide consistent learning at home. Staff work well in partnership with other settings children attend.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children's emotional development well. Children are happy and feel secure. For example, younger children enjoy looking at photographs of their family, which helps to strengthen their feelings of security further, so they settle well. Older children learn to become independent by completing simple tasks, such as helping to tidy away resources. Staff offer regular praise, which supports good self-esteem and motivates children to learn. Staff are vigilant. They complete frequent assessments of the spaces children play and for short outings, such as walking to school, to keep children safe at all times.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress across all areas of learning. They learn to be curious and explore their environments enthusiastically. Older children learn about the natural world as they search for bugs in the garden. They learn that others have feelings and how to share well, such as taking turns during games. Younger children learn to make sense of the world around them when playing imaginatively with toy garages and cars. Children develop their hand muscles ready for early writing, such as playing with dough. Children prepare well for their next stages in learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY397478
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	1062303
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	1 - 10
Total number of places	55
Number of children on roll	51
Name of registered person	Noah's Ark Childcare Centres Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP905381
Date of previous inspection	10 June 2013
Telephone number	01752 408090

Noah's Ark Childcare Centre registered in 2009. It is located in Plymouth, Devon. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm, all year round. There are 13 members of staff; of these, eight hold a level 3 qualification, two have a level 2 qualification, and two are unqualified. The deputy manager holds a relevant degree qualification. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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