

Noah's Ark Children's Centre Nursery York Road

York Road, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, GL20 5HU



Inspection date	21 November 2016
Previous inspection date	27 February 2014

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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The leadership team and staff engage children and families successfully in an excellent range of healthy initiatives, such as sugar awareness, dental care, and immunisations.
- Staff are extremely effective in supporting children's independence and prioritise this. For example, staff provide children with excellent opportunities to further develop their skills through daily routines and children relish the challenge of using the 'I can' motto at home and in the setting. Their behaviour is exemplary.
- Effective self-evaluation and a commitment from leaders and staff to continuous improvement have enabled the setting to maintain its good quality service since the previous inspection. The leadership team values the contributions that staff, parents and children make to this process.
- Staff form strong partnerships with parents. They work closely with parents and use a range of effective ways to engage them in their children's development and provide ideas to support children's learning at home.
- Staff make good use of observations to identify children's next steps in learning. Planning considers children's interests and targets accurately how to move them forward in their learning. All children make good progress from their starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Not all staff recognise when activities can be adapted and enhanced even further to maximise children's learning experiences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the monitoring of staff practice to ensure that all staff consistently know how to adapt, extend and develop activities to challenge children's learning and raise the level of teaching to a very high quality.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practices and the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff, children and parents.
- The inspector read some of the setting's documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector sampled children's development information and records.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the manager.

Inspector

Anne Clift

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The leadership team has high expectations for children's care and learning. Effective systems are in place to monitor the quality of teaching and learning overall. New staff benefit from a thorough induction programme and leaders ensure they understand policies and procedures. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have high regard for safeguarding children, are well trained, and understand how to keep children safe and help to protect them from harm. Staff understand the importance of working with other providers and professionals to ensure children's continuity of care and development. Specialist training has helped staff to encourage children to use expressive vocabulary and make connections in their lives through stories.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children's communication and language development successfully. For example, they question skilfully to encourage children to share their good ideas, and they use translating tools to help children who are learning English as an additional language. Staff plan a wide range of activities to help children explore the natural environment, such as helping children to identify local wildlife. Staff provide good opportunities to help children explore their creative ideas as they play and explore. For example, children used their imaginations as they used props to support a seaside role play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are highly skilled in supporting children's emotional development. New children settle extremely quickly with successful strategies such as marking key times on a clock and using familiar toys and photographs. Staff offer consistent praise. They are excellent role models for children and help them understand the high expectations. Children respond extremely positively. Staff provide excellent opportunities to help children learn about staying safe. For example, children monitor the local traffic and use these observations to spark role play about road safety. Staff build a strong sense of community with children and families, and the setting welcomes a range of visitors, such as a musician who plays the Last Post to help children learn about Remembrance Day.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are happy, secure and enjoy strong bonds with staff. They are highly motivated to learn and are extremely confident in their own abilities. They get on well together. For example, snack time is a social event. Children choose healthy snacks independently, and they enthusiastically engage their friends in conversations. Children develop good skills in mathematics. For example, children compared their heights using a measuring chart and used mathematical language naturally during construction activities. All children are well prepared for the next stage of their learning and for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY464922
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	1069455
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	29
Name of registered person	Barnardo's
Registered person unique reference number	RP518879
Date of previous inspection	27 February 2014
Telephone number	01684276361

Noah's Ark Children's Centre Nursery York Road registered in 2013. It operates in Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire. The nursery opens Monday to Wednesday from 8.50am to 11.50am and 12.30pm to 3.30pm, and on Thursday and Friday from 8.50am to 11.50am, during term time. The setting employs four staff. Of these, one holds early years professional status and three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years.

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