

Noah's Ark Childcare Centre



Noah's Ark Childcare Centre, 13-15 Brunswick Road, Cattedown, PLYMOUTH, PL4 ONP

Inspection date	24 April 2017
Previous inspection date	16 January 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		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children happily enter the nursery and staff provide a warm welcome to families. Children become quickly involved in the range of educational activities planned by staff, and this supports the good progress in their development from their starting points.
- Staff work closely with schools and effectively plan appropriate support as they prepare children for their move there. They work closely with parents and other professionals to support them to meet children's individual development and learning needs.
- The management team involves staff to assist them in accurately evaluating their effectiveness and identifying areas for further development. For instance, staff have recently taken part in training to support children's communication skills.
- The management team regularly looks at the data they collect, such as from the observations, assessment and planning processes, and uses this to effectively identify any weaknesses in areas of children's development. They take prompt action to increase the support they provide and close any gaps in children's learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, staff do not consistently give babies the room they need to freely move and explore the available resources.
- At times, how staff organise the older and younger toddlers during group activities does not consistently support all children to benefit from the intended learning opportunities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give babies the room they need to freely move and explore the available resources
- enable all children to take part in the activities taking place and benefit from learning opportunities.

Inspection activities

- This inspection took place following the risk assessment process.
- The inspector viewed various documents and forms, including parental consent to administer medication, policies and procedures for administering medication, records of administration of medication by staff, accident records, complaints and risk assessments.
- The inspector observed staff and children during activities outdoors and indoors.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with the provider, staff and parents, sampled children's records of development and the self-evaluation form, and checked evidence of staff suitability.

Inspector

Sara Frost

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff supervise children well, such as communicating with each other when they have to leave an area so other staff can supervise children to help keep them safe. All staff attend regular training in child protection procedures and their knowledge is checked by the manager at staff meetings. The manager and staff have a good understanding of all aspects of safeguarding and know what to do if children are at risk. The management team acts quickly upon incidents and promptly identifies how to address and learn from them. For example, they have completely reviewed the procedure for administering medication and keep comprehensive records to support in minimising potential risks to children. Staff have met the recommendations made at their previous inspection. For example, children engage in games, such as what is the time Mr Wolf, in the outdoor environment, and this helps widen their mathematical understanding.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

All staff know the children well. Staff effectively organise group activities in the pre-school room and support children's preparation for school. For example, children learn to listen, concentrate and take an active part in games that teach them to understand numbers and support their early writing skills well. Babies enjoy exploring different textures, such as sand, glue and foam. Staff effectively promote toddler's language, for instance, they describe activities and ask children questions while they play in order to extend their speech. Children are encouraged to describe the cornflour mixture, sharing that it feels 'Gloopy'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy helping out and staff effectively support their self-esteem. Staff acknowledge children's achievements. For example, children are rewarded stickers for tidying up, helping and kindness. Staff help children to learn about diversity. For example, they celebrate the different festivals linking to families' backgrounds to build on children's understanding of people from different backgrounds. Staff teach children good hygiene practices. For instance, they encourage children to wash their hands after nappy changes or using the toilet and before eating. The nursery provides nutritious and balanced meals and snacks, and the older children are encouraged to serve themselves.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy their time at the nursery. They have warm relationships with staff and other children and feel very secure. Children listen well and are keen to learn. For example, they are eager to join and have a go during group times. Babies and toddlers settle well and show a keen interest in the activities and toys provided. Children develop good skills ready for their move on through nursery and to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY272338
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	1096373
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 - 4
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	64
Name of registered person	Noah's Ark Childcare Centres Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP905381
Date of previous inspection	16 January 2014
Telephone number	01752 601887

Noah's Ark Childcare Centre is one of eight nurseries run by the Noah's Ark company. It opened in 2003 and operates from a converted house in Cattedown, Plymouth. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year, except for bank holidays. It receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 13 staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years childcare qualifications at level 2 and above.

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