

The Ark at Wellin Lane Preschool

13-15 Wellin Lane, Edwalton, Nottingham, NG12 4AS



Inspection date

22 May 2017

Previous inspection date

6 January 2015

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

- The dedicated manager and her experienced team are committed to providing children and their families with the best possible early years provision. Regular reflection and evaluation lead to effective plans that drive forward improvements.
- Close partnership work, enhanced support during key-group activities and tailored learning plans, contribute towards closing gaps in learning for individual and groups of children.
- Staff provide a highly stimulating environment, both indoors and outdoors, with a wealth of opportunities and resources for play and exploration.
- Transitions through the pre-school and on to school are smooth and exceptionally well supported. This ensures there is consistency and continuity in children's learning and care.
- Staff support children's language development very well. For example, they engage children in lots of conversations based on their interests and ask interesting questions to help challenge their thinking.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff do not help children to take responsibility for negotiating and solving their own problems when playing with their friends.
- Although systems to monitor staff performance are in place, these are not rigorous enough to provide a sharp focus on enhancing teaching practice to the highest levels.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities that help children to take responsibility for negotiating and solving their own problems
- strengthen performance management systems and focus more precisely on monitoring staff practice more rigorously to provide a sharper focus on teaching that is of the highest quality.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Tina Garner

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Regular training and updates help to ensure that all staff have the most up-to-date knowledge of child protection procedures. The manager carries out supervision meetings with staff and all staff attend regular team meetings. This helps to ensure that staff continue to understand their roles and responsibilities. The manager monitors the progress that children make alongside staff who know them best. They take time to get to know children's family circumstances and offer support alongside external agencies where necessary. This is particularly effective for children who speak English as an additional language and for those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They follow effective processes to assess and track children's development. This information is used efficiently to ensure children are offered tailored support and guidance. Staff are on hand to offer reassurance and extend children's individual learning when required. All children enjoy the activities available and show sustained levels of interest in what is provided, in relation to their age. They listen well at group times and learn to communicate their needs successfully, overall. They show an interest in books and stories and practise their early writing skills as they write for different purposes. Staff welcome children who speak English as an additional language to share cultural traditions. This helps to enhance children's awareness of people and communities beyond their own. Staff effectively help children benefit from weekly Forest School activities enhancing their learning of the environment through their senses and imagination.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle quickly in this warm, caring, friendly environment. They form secure attachments with friendly staff, who truly foster their emotional well-being. Staff give lots of praise to children during activities, supporting their good self-esteem. Information gained from parents is used well to tailor experiences to meet the individual care needs of each child. Children learn to lead healthy lifestyles. They enjoy a variety of nutritious snacks. The outdoor area provides exciting play opportunities for all ages and effectively supports children who prefer to play and learn outside. Toys and resources are arranged well, this helps to inspire children's curiosity and independence.

Outcomes for children are good

Children show high levels of concentration and engagement with activities. They gain strong mathematical knowledge, such as recognising shapes, confidently estimating numbers and independently checking their answers by counting. Children develop increasing independence in caring for themselves, such as using the toilet without help. These skills help to prepare children well for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	253409
Local authority	Nottinghamshire
Inspection number	1090339
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	30
Number of children on roll	45
Name of registered person	West Bridgford Pentecostal Church Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP904694
Date of previous inspection	6 January 2015
Telephone number	0115 9452627

The Ark at Wellin Lane Preschool registered in 1992. It operates from The Rock Hub in the Edwalton area of Nottingham. The pre-school is run by a one member committee and employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications. Three practitioners hold qualifications at level 3, one at level 4 and one at level 5. The pre-school opens Monday to Thursday from 9am to 3.15pm and from 9am to midday on a Friday, term time only. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language and children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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