

Noah's Ark Childcare Centre

375 Blandford Road, Efford, Plymouth, PL3 6JD



Inspection date

20 September 2017

Previous inspection date

19 February 2013

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Requires improvement | 3 |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| | Previous inspection: | Good | 2 |
| Effectiveness of the leadership and management | | Requires improvement | 3 |
| Quality of teaching, learning and assessment | | Requires improvement | 3 |
| Personal development, behaviour and welfare | | Requires improvement | 3 |
| Outcomes for children | | Requires improvement | 3 |

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Assessments of children's progress do not always accurately reflect what children know and can do. Staff do not use what they know about the children to guide the planning of activities. As a result, some children receive insufficient challenge and do not make good or better progress.
- Recent changes to the monitoring of the quality of teaching and the progress children make are in their infancy and have not ensured that teaching is consistently good.
- Leaders do not use the additional funding for children aged three and four years well enough to help those who need extra support to catch up.

It has the following strengths

- Staff spend time getting to know the families of the children they care for. This helps to build trusting relationships.
- Effective partnerships with the children's centre staff mean that children and their families receive valuable help and assistance.
- The recently appointed manager has already developed an accurate understanding of where improvements are needed and is taking steps to tackle gaps in provision.

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 teaching and learning in the nursery to identify and address all weaknesses in practice, and focus on raising the quality of teaching so that children make good or better progress
- improve the quality of assessments to ensure they accurately reflect what children know and can do and use this information to guide the planning of activities
- monitor and review the impact of the use of early years pupil premium to ensure it is targeted appropriately so that children who need extra support are helped to catch up.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and a director and discussed self-evaluation, staffing and monitoring of the educational programs.
- The inspector completed two joint observations with the manager and discussed the findings.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their views of the setting.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies and procedures, children's development records and planning.

Inspector

Linda Williamson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Since the last inspection the provider's monitoring of the quality of teaching and the provision has not been effective. As a result, outcomes for children are no longer good and previous recommendations for improvement have not been fully addressed. The recently appointed manager already has a good understanding of what areas need to improve and has begun to implement an action plan to address these. For example, analysis of data showed children were not progressing well enough in mathematics. Planning of the educational programme has been developed and now includes more mathematical activities. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have attended appropriate training and are clear about the procedures to follow in the event of a safeguarding concern.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The quality of teaching is inconsistent. Some staff confidently encourage children to think for themselves and extend their language. For example, staff encourage children to think and talk about how to increase the height of their tower of boxes. Children use mathematical language to describe and compare height and length. However, some staff do not have high enough expectations of what children can achieve and do not sufficiently challenge them to learn more. Parents speak highly of the support they receive. They are regularly invited to talk with staff about the progress their child has made.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children behave well. They are beginning to show consideration for others as they wait their turn and share toys. Staff help children to develop their self-care skills well and to improve their independence. For example, younger children confidently change their shoes to go outside to play with little adult help. However, some staff do not always motivate children and keep their interest in activities. Where this happens, children do not take an active part in playing and learning. Staff skilfully meet the physical needs of children who require more support so that they are able to take part in the full range of activities.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children are beginning to develop the skills they need for the next step in their learning, and, where appropriate, for starting school. Children follow instructions from staff and they listen well during group times. However, weaknesses in teaching mean that some children, do not make the progress they are capable of.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY451713 |
| Local authority | Plymouth |
| Inspection number | 1113622 |
| 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 | 0 - 8 |
| Total number of places | 78 |
| Number of children on roll | 53 |
| Name of registered person | Noah's Ark Childcare Centres Ltd |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP905381 |
| Date of previous inspection | 19 February 2013 |
| Telephone number | 01752 771199 |

Noah's Ark Childcare Centre registered in 2012. It is one of eight privately owned nurseries and is situated within the Dell Children's Centre in Efford, Plymouth. The nursery is registered on the Early Years Register and the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. It is open from 7.30am to 6pm Monday to Friday 51 weeks of the year. The nursery employs 10 members of staff to work directly with the children, of these nine hold relevant childcare qualifications.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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