

The Ark Day Nursery

The Ark, Rowland Road, Scunthorpe, DN16 1ST



Inspection date	16 January 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 provider has highly successful partnerships with other professionals that are helping to improve outcomes for children. She actively promotes the raising of standards for care and learning across the early years sector within the local area.
- The provider's perceptive evaluation of practice accurately identifies strengths and areas for improvement. She frequently seeks feedback from parents and children so that they can share their views. Parents comment that staff are friendly and welcoming.
- The provider implements highly effective monitoring of individual and groups of children. She identifies and addresses any gaps in achievement quickly. She uses additional funding well to help gaps in attainment close. Parents share their aspirations for their children and are involved in monitoring their children's progress.
- The provider implements an effective key-person approach. This helps children to form secure emotional attachments from the start. Staff in the baby room are caring and attentive. Key staff attend to children's intimate care needs, singing and chatting to them as they do. They give them their milk and help them with feeding.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The provider does not keep all parents well informed about the wealth of activities available to help them continue their children's learning at home.
- Staff do not always notice children's emerging lines of enquiry during play and make the most of opportunities to challenge children's thinking and enhance their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen partnerships with parents further to keep them better informed about the broad range of activities available to help them support children's learning at home
- help staff to be more perceptive to children's emerging lines of enquiry during play, so that they make the most of every opportunity to challenge children further and extend their learning.

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

Inspector

Nicola Dickinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Recruitment and induction are robust to check that staff are suitable to work with children. The provider ensures all staff understand their role in protecting children through regular training and updates. She implements effective policies and procedures to keep children safe. Staff are well qualified and have many opportunities to build on their knowledge and skills. They link with other providers to share good practice. This has helped them to focus planning more precisely to target children's individual needs. Overall, partnerships with parents are effective. The nursery holds events to encourage parents to be involved in nursery life. They invite parents to stay and have breakfast with their children. The provider offers low cost, home-cooked, healthy meals for parents to buy and take home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They gather information about children's starting points and interests from parents. They complete observations to identify children's next steps in learning. Staff use the information well to make accurate assessments of children's ongoing learning and to inform planning. Activities capture children's interests and keep them motivated. For example, children go for journeys by bus and train to explore the wider community. They visit the local car wash and set up their own car wash during role play. Staff promote communication and language extremely well using a variety of methods. Children develop a wide vocabulary and are confident to chat and share their ideas. Children who have special educational needs receive high levels of support. They make swift progress from their starting points.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and confident. They enjoy their time at nursery. They have strong relationships with staff and good friendships with other children. Staff promote good behaviour. They teach children the importance of listening, sharing and taking turns. Staff help children develop a good understanding of leading healthy lifestyles. For example, children enjoy visits from the dentist to teach them about the importance of good dental hygiene. Children are active and enjoy physical activities where they develop their small- and large-muscle skills. They learn to stay safe and assess risk through a range of activities and real-life experiences. For example, they learn about crossing the road and observe safety rules during trips to the farm.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are stimulated and engaged. They develop their understanding of different forms of technology, such as using programmable toys and voice-activated equipment. Children enjoy early reading and begin to write familiar letters. They develop their mathematical skills. For instance, they look for shapes and numbers during walks. All children make good progress from their starting points. They become independent, keen learners and attain a wide range of skills ready for the move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY497563
Local authority	North Lincolnshire
Inspection number	1036315
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 - 4
Total number of places	66
Number of children on roll	75
Name of registered person	The Ark Day Nursery LTD
Registered person unique reference number	RP903015
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01724844288

The Ark Day Nursery registered in 2016. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff, eight of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. It closes for one week at Christmas. Sessions are from 7.30am until 5.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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