

Noah's Ark Nursery Group

Bures Community Centre, Nayland Road, BURES, Suffolk CO8 5BX



Inspection date	5 November 2018
Previous inspection date	5 November 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- Caring and attentive staff give children good emotional support. This helps children to settle well at the nursery and develop into confident and capable learners.
- Leadership and management are good. The partnership between the committee, staff and parents is strong. The views and suggestions of parents are regularly sought and acted upon to support continuous improvement.
- Staff know their children well. They gather information from parents to identify children's needs and interests to help further support their learning.
- Staff are good role models for children; they frequently praise children. This helps to raise children's self-esteem and supports them to behave well.
- Children have access to a wide variety of interesting resources indoors and outdoors to support their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the best possible use of the information they have about children to inform precise assessments of children's achievements, to raise the quality of teaching even higher.
- Staff do not consistently build on opportunities that occur during children's spontaneous play to enhance their thinking skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of the information available about children to inform precise assessments of children's achievements and help raise the quality of teaching even higher
- further develop staff's teaching skills to make better use of opportunities that arise during children's spontaneous play to enhance their thinking skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, and spoke with children, and staff, at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and learning during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Maria Blanche

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Leaders and staff have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities to protect children, with secure systems in place to ensure the suitability of staff. All staff know what to do if they have a concern about a child's welfare. Staff use risk assessment effectively to help ensure that the indoor and outdoor environments are safe and secure. Staff are motivated, enthusiastic and well supported by the management team. Leaders effectively support staff, for example, through regular supervisions, annual appraisals and team meetings. Staff are encouraged to share their professional knowledge. The leader makes herself available to parents and staff and provides regular opportunities for parents to discuss their children's progress. Leaders work well to make use of additional funding to ensure any gaps in children's learning narrow and they make good progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding of children's needs and interests. They provide a range of different activities that encourages children's inquisitiveness and curiosity, for example, children explore the movement of bubbles and the different textures and features of autumn leaves. Staff provide good support to help children develop their creativity and imagination through role-play scenarios. This also helps to stimulate children's language. Children develop a good understanding of the wider world, for example, they go on regular outings to different places in their local community.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The key-person system is effective and supports children's well-being. Children are confident and familiar with the routines of their day. They show eagerness and enthusiasm in a range of activities. For example, they sit attentively to listen to a story read by the local fire safety officer, this helps to support children to learn about danger and how to be safe. Children are enthusiastic to participate in a range of physical play activities, and have good opportunities to play outdoors on a daily basis. For example, they practise their skills of negotiating space and direction on trikes in the garden.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident and develop the skills they need in readiness for their next stage of learning or starting school. For example, they learn to identify the different letter shapes in their name as part of the setting's self-registration system. They use numbers in their play to support early mathematical skills. Children actively explore their environment, take part in activities with enthusiasm and enjoy learning. Children make their own choices from a range of resources to support developing independence in their play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	251429
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	10066152
Type of provision	Sessional day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 11
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	80
Name of registered person	Noah's Ark Nursery Group Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP523917
Date of previous inspection	5 November 2015
Telephone number	01787 227899

Noah's Ark Nursery Group registered in 1971. It operates from the Bures Community Centre. It is open from 7.30am until 5pm, Monday to Friday, term time only. The nursery group employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, seven hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The group receives funding for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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