

Noah's Ark Pre-School

Caterham Community Church, Coulsdon Road, Caterham CR3 5NF



Inspection date	22 March 2019
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

This provision is good

- The management team has a clear vision for the pre-school and evaluates practice routinely. They use feedback from parents, staff and children to identify and develop areas for improvement. For example, they have responded to parents views on developing the outdoor play area even further.
- Children play in a welcoming and engaging environment. Staff have high expectations of children's learning. They plan a range of enjoyable and challenging activities and children are very eager to join in. Children make good progress from their starting points in learning.
- A highly effective key-person system strongly supports children's emotional well-being. Children demonstrate they feel safe and secure in the care of adults.
- Parents comment very positively about the caring staff and how much their children enjoy attending pre-school.
- Sometimes, staff do make the most of their good relationships with parents to share ideas to help children build on their learning at home.
- Staff do not differentiate between the abilities of children of different ages to develop their independence and self-help skills.
- Systems for tracking groups of children's progress are not yet fully effective to consistently raise outcomes for children 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:

- consider more ways to share ideas for parents to support children's learning at home
- develop further ways to support older children in developing their independence and self-help skills
- build further on systems to track groups of children's progress, to help raise children's outcomes to the highest levels.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors to assess the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the manager, deputy manager and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the deputy manager to discuss and evaluate practice.
- The inspector sampled documents, including safeguarding procedures, staff suitability checks, adult to child ratios and children's development records.
- The inspector spoke to parents, a childminder, staff and children and took into consideration their views.

Inspector

Janet Thouless

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Appropriate recruitment, induction procedures and ongoing staff appraisals help staff gain a secure knowledge of their roles and responsibilities. Staff have a secure understanding of child protection and how to refer any concerns they may have about a child's welfare. Staff work well with other professionals to support children and their families. Staff use additional funding efficiently to provide extra support for children as required. Management monitor staff performance well and successfully support staff to develop their skills further. Staff have attended training to further support children's skills in communication and language development, which is having a positive impact on their overall development. Unqualified staff are working towards a recognised childcare qualification.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children's ongoing development well. They identify children's starting points, observe and monitor their progress and plan activities to support their next steps in learning. Staff sit alongside and support younger children as they learn to manipulate dough, using a range of tools. Children focus well and this activity helps to promote hand-to-eye coordination and develop early writing skills. Older children have good opportunities to write for a purpose. They enjoy writing their own name and short captions, developing their literacy skills. Children's communication and language skills develop well. Staff use small-group times that focus precisely on helping promote children's speaking skills further.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are very attentive, calm and listen to children respectfully. Children's behaviour is good. Older children show empathy towards younger children, demonstrating patience and kindness. For example, older children hold paper to support younger children to snip with scissors. Staff offer less confident children a reassuring cuddle and help them settle to play. Children choose from a wide selection of healthy snacks, to promote their good health. They use the toilet independently and become fully involved at tidy up time, returning toys to boxes and shelving. They are well supervised as they play inside or choose to spend time outside. Children have good opportunities to develop good coordination and control. For example, they ride wheeled toys with skill. They benefit from the use of a large hall where they climb, balance and learn to control their bodies, developing good physical skills.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They are inquisitive and enthusiastic learners. Children follow instructions and listen attentively to stories. Children use a range of mathematical language as they play. They count, name colours and shapes and explore measurement as they pour bubbly water. Children are actively gaining the skills and knowledge they need for the next stage in their learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY536056
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	10089638
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	38
Name of registered person	Caterham Community Church CIO
Registered person unique reference number	RP536055
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01883 330201

Noah's Ark Pre-School re-registered in 2016. It is managed by the committee of Caterham Community Church and is based in Caterham, Surrey. The pre-school is open week days, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday during term time. Times of opening are from 9am to 9.15 for early risers sessions, 9.15am until 12 noon, with lunchtime sessions from 12 noon until 1pm. Afternoon sessions are from 1pm until 3.30pm on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The pre-school employs seven members of staff, five staff hold a relevant childcare qualification.

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