

Noah's Ark Playgroup

The Church Hall, Church Hill, Kimberley, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire
NG16 2HY



Inspection date	5 June 2019
Previous inspection date	1 March 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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 is a provision that requires improvement

- Teaching varies. This is because staff do not successfully plan activities or the environment to maintain all children's interest. Occasionally, children only participate for short periods. Furthermore, staff do not provide activities that support children's next steps in learning. Children are not making consistently good progress.
- Staff have not secured partnership working with other settings that children attend, to help provide consistent support for their learning and development.
- Although staff have formed good relationships with parents, there is scope to share even more purposeful information with them. Staff do not share information with parents about their child's learning and development.

It has the following strengths

- Children develop good bonds with their key person. They seek staff out for support and reassurance when needed. This helps children to feel safe and secure.
- Children learn important skills and are prepared well for their move on to school. Staff encourage children to be independent and do small tasks for themselves, such as getting dressed to go outdoors and pouring their own drinks.
- Staff are good role models and help children learn to share and take turns. Children demonstrate a good understanding of the playgroup's rules as they tell their friends to say 'please' and 'thank you' and not to hurt one another. Children behave well.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
improve planning so that all children experience interesting, challenging and enjoyable experiences that are tailored to their individual needs and help them to make good progress.	15/07/2019

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

- enhance partnership working with other settings that children attend, to share more information about their learning and development in order to provide consistent care
- strengthen partnership working with parents by sharing ideas to help them to complement and extend their child's learning at home.

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 completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the playgroup manager.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector held several discussions with the playgroup manager. She looked at relevant documentation, including the self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working at the playgroup.

Inspector
Carly Polak

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management requires improvement

Staff miss opportunities to communicate with all parents in detail about their child's day at the playgroup. At times, parents are unsure about what their child has been learning and playing with on a particular day. Nevertheless, parents say that their children enjoy attending the playgroup. Staff work well with other professionals to help support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). The manager evaluates the playgroup and seeks the views of parents. She has recently started to implement a programme of professional development for staff to support them in developing their teaching skills. For example, staff undertake training on supporting children with SEND. The manager has not made effective links with other settings that children also attend. This means that continuity of children's care and learning is not as well promoted as it could be. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are alert to possible signs that children may be at risk of harm. They know what to do if they have concerns about a child or the behaviour of a colleague.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Teaching across the playgroup is not consistently good enough to support and challenge all children's learning. Although staff interact well with small groups of children, they do not always recognise that individual children lack focus in their learning. Nevertheless, staff know the children and their capabilities well. They identify what a child needs to learn next. However, they do not always use this information to plan for children's next steps. Staff do not always consider individual children well enough when planning aspects of the day, such as snack time. Consequently, some children wander without purpose and are not fully supported to enhance their learning. Staff follow children's lead well and pick up on their interests. For example, when a small group of children find a snail outside, staff quickly and enthusiastically engage with them. Children stay highly interested in the snail for significant amounts of time.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Weaknesses in teaching and learning mean that some children are not as well supported or motivated as they could be. Nevertheless, children are happy and arrive at the playgroup settled and eager to find their friends. Staff support children to adopt healthy lifestyles. They encourage parents to provide healthy packed lunches and staff provide a range of healthy snacks. Children have regular physical play opportunities outdoors. They enjoy riding wheeled toys and using balancing equipment. Staff supervise children appropriately and teach them to manage age-appropriate risks that help raise their awareness of personal safety.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children who are in receipt of funded early education are not making good enough progress. Gaps in learning and development are not being addressed as effectively as they could be. Older children develop skills in mathematics. They show good counting skills as they count all the children at registration time. Children develop good listening and attention skills as they follow instructions in a dance session. They show off their physical skills as they clap, hop and march to music.

Setting details

Unique reference number	253124
Local authority	Nottinghamshire County Council
Inspection number	10072676
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	38
Name of registered person	Noah's Ark Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522896
Date of previous inspection	1 March 2016
Telephone number	0115 9458 553 or

Noah's Ark Playgroup registered in 1992 and is located in Kimberley, Nottinghamshire. The playgroup employs four members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 9am to 3pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two, three- and four-year-old children.

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