

Noah's Ark Nursery School

Downlands Road, Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 5EF



Inspection date	5 July 2019
Previous inspection date	22 February 2016

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

This provision is good

- Staff manage children's behaviour well. They provide clear explanations that help children know what is expected. Children have good manners and are polite. They play cooperatively together and learn to take turns and share resources from an early age.
- The manager uses regular feedback from staff, parents and children to identify priorities for developing the nursery. She has a clear picture of the strengths and weakness of the group and is committed to continuous improvement.
- Staff provide a well organised and resourced provision that encourages and provides good opportunities for children to develop independence and to thrive in a caring atmosphere.
- Key persons ensure children are well cared for and feel secure because of the strong emotional relationships they have established with both children and their families.
- Older children take part in a wide range of activities to support early problem-solving and thinking skills. As a result, children make good progress in mathematical development.
- Although procedures are in place for monitoring staff practice, at times the manager misses opportunities to raise teaching standards even higher, such as peer observations, to reach a consistent outstanding level.
- Methods for gathering information from parents about their children's existing abilities are not precise enough to allow staff to plan as well as possible for their individual learning needs from the start.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to observe and monitor staff interactions with children, to strengthen the overall teaching quality to the highest achievable levels
- strengthen procedures to obtain information from parents when children first start, to assess what they can already do, and to identify their starting points and stages of development more precisely.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the activities, the quality of teaching and the supervision of children throughout the setting.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including the staff recruitment process, self-evaluation, observations of children's learning, planning records and documentation linked to the monitoring of children's progress.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector had a tour of the premises and looked at available resources both inside and outside.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager to observe teaching standards.

Inspector

Tracey Cook

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a good understanding of safeguarding procedures and what to do to help protect children from harm. The manager has robust recruitment and induction procedures to help ensure the continued suitability of staff. The manager monitors children's progress effectively. She analyses information about children's development, including that of groups of children, to identify and narrow any gaps quickly to ensure all children make good progress. Parents speak highly of the staff and the care their children receive.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a good mix of child-led and adult-led activities. Children's learning is skilfully extended as staff know the children's needs well. Staff keep a close check on children's progress and plan carefully to support what children need to learn next. Older children benefit from a wide range of learning opportunities that encourage curiosity and imagination and challenge their listening and thinking skills. Younger children help create a drive-in car-wash using the bicycles. They take turns, share and develop their physical skills as they ride and wash the bicycles and tricycles. Staff demonstrate and teach children how to solve problems. For example, younger children use construction toys to build rockets after being taught by staff how to fix the pieces together.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are eager to attend and thoroughly enjoy their time at the nursery. They confidently participate in various fun activities of their choice. They learn the importance of keeping themselves healthy and safe. Children spend time outdoors and enjoy being physically active, such as cycling the tricycles. During mealtimes staff talk with children about the healthy food they are eating, helping them to appreciate the importance of a balanced diet. Staff talk to children about their work, helping them to recognise their achievements and building children's confidence and self-esteem. Children come from a variety of backgrounds and are encouraged to talk about their beliefs and celebrations. They learn to celebrate each other's differences. Children have lots of opportunities to learn about the world around them. For example, they watch and care for chick eggs while learning about life cycles.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those with special educational needs, are motivated, eager to learn and develop positive attitudes towards learning. They develop strong social and communication skills. They cooperate and negotiate well as they play together. Younger children learn to explore and investigate, for example, when they search for insects in the outdoor area. They use magnifying glasses to investigate how many legs each insect has. Older children develop their early reading skills as they share books with each other and link letters with sounds. Children quickly develop the key skills they need to prepare them for their next stage of learning and move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	145998
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	10066864
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	50
Name of registered person	Noah`s Ark Nursery School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP520552
Date of previous inspection	22 February 2016
Telephone number	01380 727203

Noah's Ark Nursery School registered in 2001 and is located within the grounds of Wansdyke Primary School, Devizes, Wiltshire. The nursery is open each weekday from 9am until 3pm, during school term time only. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff. Seven staff hold appropriate early years qualifications, including two with qualified teacher status and one with early years professional status. One member of staff is an Apprentice and working towards Early Years Qualifications. Children attend from the age of two years and the nursery provides free early education to children aged three and four years.

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