

Inspection of Noah's Ark

146 Mayes Road, London N22 6SY

Inspection date: 13 February 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
------------------------------	-------------

The quality of education	Good
--------------------------	-------------

Behaviour and attitudes	Good
-------------------------	-------------

Personal development	Good
----------------------	-------------

Leadership and management	Good
---------------------------	-------------

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
--	------

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children show that they are very happy and secure in this extremely welcoming and nurturing learning environment. Children develop a strong bond with staff who are very caring and attentive to their individual needs. Children benefit from a stimulating range of activities that capture their interests well. Staff have high expectations for children's learning and behaviour and are positive role models. As a result, children behave extremely well and show consistently high levels of emotional well-being.

Babies enjoy participating in painting activities, and staff support them to discuss different colours and how the paint and brush feels. They also develop their imagination when exploring toy food and pretending to cook. Staff provide lots of encouragement as they play and provide commentary to support their understanding and expand their vocabulary. Toddlers enjoy listening to the 'Very Hungry Caterpillar Story' and exploring real fruits. This helps to develop their early literacy skills and mathematical knowledge. They also like exploring a range of natural resources, such as shells, conkers and leaves. This helps to broaden their understanding of the natural world.

Pre-school aged children display excellent engagement as they experiment with fruits to create different juices. Staff skilfully expand their language development as they talk about the fresh zest and fragrant smells of the fruit. Older children also show great curiosity as they make tea with real tea bags in the home corner. Staff support children to discuss their ideas and intentions in a highly effective way.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The nursery is successfully led by an experienced, passionate and dedicated manager. The manager has an ambitious vision for the nursery and regularly reflects of the setting's strengths and areas for ongoing enhancements. Staff express high levels of well-being and discuss that they feel valued and well supported to fulfil their roles and responsibilities.
- Staff know the children extremely well. They place strong emphasis on fostering children's individual development across the seven areas of learning. This helps to provide a secure foundation for their future learning. It is evident that children make good progress in relation to their starting points and are thriving.
- There are very positive settling-in procedures in place. For instance, staff invest a great deal of time to get to know individual children and families when they first join. This helps to build strong levels of trust and helps to provide good levels of consistency between nursery and home.
- Parents' written views are extremely positive. For example, parents consistently express that they highly value the kind and committed staff. They also state that

communication is very good and that they feel well involved in their children's learning.

- Staff work in close partnership with other early years professionals to support children's well-being and early education. This is evident when positive collaborative working takes place to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. This helps all children to make good progress in their learning.
- Children develop good understanding of people and communities outside their own lives. For instance, they learn about different backgrounds and cultures through art, music and storytelling. Such activities help to broaden children's understanding of diversity in a fun way.
- Children receive excellent support to lead healthy lifestyles. This is evident when they eat a range of nutritious snacks and meals. They also have frequent opportunities to be active during weekly sports sessions and regular trips to the local park and woods. Furthermore, children learn about the importance of good oral health, for instance through trips to the dentist and when participating in fun and engaging tooth-brushing activities.
- Staff working with pre-school aged children extend and challenge children's language development and new knowledge in a very successful way. However, on occasions, staff working with babies and toddlers do not always make the most of opportunities that arise during play to extend their language skills and learning to the very highest level.
- There is a good culture of support and mentoring in place for staff. However, other professional development opportunities are not fully maximised to help to raise the quality of education to the very highest level.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff display good knowledge in relation to their responsibilities to keep children safe. They are confident about recognising any signs that may indicate a child is at risk of harm. They also understand the correct reporting procedures to follow to ensure a child receives appropriate support to help protect their welfare. The manager has thorough recruitment arrangements in place to help ensure staff are suitable to work with children. Furthermore, there is strong emphasis on completing daily risk assessments to help ensure the learning environments are clean, safe and suitable.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen how staff working with babies and toddlers extend children's language skills and learning to an even higher level

- build on professional development opportunities in order to extend staff member's knowledge and skills, to raise the quality of education to the very highest level.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY270659
Local authority	Haringey
Inspection number	10263819
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 at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	46
Number of children on roll	62
Name of registered person	Skouros, Efclea
Registered person unique reference number	RP513933
Telephone number	0208 888 4730
Date of previous inspection	12 May 2017

Information about this early years setting

Noah's Ark opened in 2003. It is situated in Wood Green, in the London Borough of Haringey. The provider receives funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years. The nursery opens from 8am until 6pm on Monday to Friday, all year round. The provider employs 13 members of staff. Most of these hold early years qualifications ranging from level 6 to level 2.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Amy Mckenzie

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the nursery received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the manager and has taken this into account in their evaluation of the nursery.
- The inspector completed a number of observations of the children during play and assessed the quality of the education.
- The inspector considered parents' written views during the inspection.
- A range of documentation was viewed, such as staff qualification and training certificates.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2023