

Noah's Ark Preschool

Gracious Street Methodist Church, Chapel Street, Knaresborough, North Yorkshire,
HG5 8AN



Inspection date	3 July 2018
Previous inspection date	30 April 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the 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 manager and staff are a committed team. They successfully create a safe, supportive and welcoming environment. Children have built up very strong attachments with staff and their emotional well-being is very well supported. Parents praise staff and comment that they are caring, friendly and skilled.
- Regular observations of children's learning are accurate and challenging next steps are set to provide children with relevant and highly motivating learning experiences. This helps to improve outcomes for children.
- Staff place a strong focus on supporting children's communication and language development. They use a variety of successful strategies to enhance children's skills in speaking and understanding, including for children who speak English as an additional language.
- The manager and staff reflect on the overall quality of the pre-school and identify targets for the year ahead. This helps drive improvements in the quality of care, teaching and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Ofsted has not been provided with the required information to check the suitability of all committee members.
- Arrangements are not fully in place to liaise with all other settings that children attend to fully support and complement their care and learning experiences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

Due Date

- ensure that Ofsted is provided with the necessary information about committee members to enable them to check their suitability in a timely manner. 03/08/2018

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

- extend the information shared with other early years settings to fully support and complement children's care and learning experiences.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as children's assessments, planning and policies and procedures.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and the chairperson from the management committee. She looked at evidence of the suitability of committee members and staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Shirley Maynard

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have comprehensive knowledge about how to protect children from harm and they update themselves regularly with changes in legislation. They understand the procedures they must follow if they are concerned about a child's welfare and are vigilant in their practice. Ofsted has not been informed of new committee members. This means that they have not had their suitability checked. Nevertheless, this does not affect children's experiences or their safety, as committee members are not involved in the day-to-day running of the setting. The manager works alongside staff, coaching and mentoring them using her experience, skills and knowledge. Partnerships with parents are strong. There is a two-way flow of information. Staff engage parents in their child's learning and share information using a variety of methods.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is very good and, on occasion, outstanding. Staff are very skilled at incorporating teaching into children's play. This ensures children remain engaged and focused. Children have limitless opportunities to explore, investigate and discover the world around them while playing outdoors. Children show impressive levels of perseverance and immerse themselves into imaginative scenarios, such as during role play. Older children confidently recognise letters and match them to the letter on their name card. This helps to support children's early literacy skills. Children freely develop their ability to be creative; they access a wide range of resources to paint, cut, glue and stick. Staff share books with children and involve them in the story, asking questions about what is happening. As children get older they start to re-enact the stories and demonstrate their greater involvement.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff help children learn to take turns and be polite and kind to others. Children of all ages play extremely well together. They often invite others into their play to show their care and consideration. Staff give children confidence to keep themselves safe and to manage age-appropriate risks. They supervise and interact with the children very skilfully. Children have ample opportunities to exercise and access fresh air. They develop good personal hygiene skills as they learn how to care for themselves, such as washing their hands. Younger children are well supported to serve themselves at snack time.

Outcomes for children are good

Children thrive in this inviting and stimulating environment. They are confident, independent and show strong physical development. Older children's mathematical development is very well supported. For example, children increase their awareness of colours, number and size during activities. All children are motivated to learn and develop good skills that help them to be ready for the move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY373689
Local authority	North Yorkshire
Inspection number	1093431
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	37
Name of registered person	Noah's Ark Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP518675
Date of previous inspection	30 April 2015
Telephone number	01423868575

Noah's Ark Preschool registered in 2009. It employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold qualified teacher status, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one at level 2. The pre-school opens Monday to Thursday from 9am to 4pm, and Friday from 9am to 12.30pm, term time only. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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.

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