

Noah's Ark Childrens Nursery

Lancing Manor Park, Manor Road, Lancing, West Sussex, BN15 0PH



Inspection date	4 January 2017
Previous inspection date	14 August 2013

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

- Staff provide a wide variety of interesting and challenging activities that reflect children's interests and meet their needs. Children make good progress in their learning.
- Children are active learners who enjoy exploring and investigating new ideas. For example, they enjoy experimenting and learning about simple science. Children eagerly join in activities and find things out for themselves.
- Children see to their own personal care needs well. For example, after lunch they took their flannels and looked in a mirror to make sure their faces were properly cleaned.
- The management team evaluates the provision effectively and monitors all children's progress. It successfully identifies and addresses any emerging gaps in children's learning, such as in boys' ability to use their imagination. The recent introduction of resources that are more reflective of boys' interests has increased their imaginary skills.
- Staff work effectively with agencies and other early years settings. These successful partnerships contribute to continuity in children's care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally staff do not make the most of opportunities to help very young children settle quickly and form strong emotional bonds with their special adult.
- Staff do not consistently find out promptly from new parents what they know about their children's learning and stage of development to help inform their initial assessment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the existing good key-person arrangements to further develop the settling-in process for very young children
- extend opportunities for all parents to contribute to initial assessments of their children's starting points on entry to the nursery.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities indoors and in the outdoor area.
- The inspector checked the nursery's safeguarding and complaints procedures.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager and held discussions about children's learning and progress.
- The inspector sampled children's learning records and other relevant documentation.
- The inspector held meetings with the management team and looked at their self-evaluation and improvement plans.

Inspector

Alison Weaver

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Thorough recruitment procedures help ensure staff are suitable to work with children. All staff complete safeguarding training and fully understand how to protect children from extreme views and harm. The owner follows good procedures when dealing with complaints. The professional development of all staff is given priority. For example, managers consistently monitor, coach and train all staff. Children benefit from staff's increasing knowledge and skills. For example, staff attended training that is enabling them to build successfully on children's interest and engagement in stories.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff carefully observe and assess children's ongoing progress. They keep parents well informed about their children's progress to enhance children's learning; for example, when parents implement staff's suggestions of activities to do at home. Staff interact skilfully with children and extend their thinking and learning. For example, they encourage all children to join in and get involved in the learning experiences. They actively invite all children to ask questions and guess what might be the correct answer. At the inspection, staff and children were making good use of the internet to find out why they have hairs on their arms. Staff build on children's already good vocabulary, for example, when they introduce and explain difficult words.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff maintain safe and secure indoor and outdoor environments. They are good role models for children and are caring and friendly. Children are happy, safe and secure. They form good relationships with adults and their friends. Children behave well and share resources. Children soon understand the rules of the setting and readily follow them. They show a respect for others and learn to value differences in their community. Children develop a strong awareness of the importance of healthy lifestyles. They follow good hygiene practices and eat healthily. Children enjoy freshly prepared home-cooked meals. They eagerly go outside to play and have fun exercising outdoors. Children build on their strong physical skills and coordination effectively.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for a successful move to school. They are confident communicators. Children are independent and take on responsibilities, such as helping to tidy up. They have good social skills and play happily with others. Children willingly join in group activities and are keen to share their ideas. They are curious and interested in the world around them. Children are involved in decision-making and planning what to do. They develop strong mathematical skills. For example, during cooking activities children look at the numbers in recipes and count the ingredients.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY312802
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1061935
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	46
Name of registered person	Carolyn Mary Hopson
Registered person unique reference number	RP905427
Date of previous inspection	14 August 2013
Telephone number	01903 766413

Noah's Ark Childrens Nursery registered in 2005. It operates from a building in Lancing Manor Park, Lancing, West Sussex. The nursery opens from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, 51 weeks of the year. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs eight staff. There are five staff with an appropriate early years qualification at level 3, including the manager, and one member of staff with a qualification at level 2.

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