

Noah's Ark Preschool

Cullompton Baptist Church, High Street, Cullompton, Devon, EX15 1AA



Inspection date

9 June 2016

Previous inspection date

17 September 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- Leadership and management are effective. Children really enjoy their time at the pre-school and are eager to start playing. Children benefit from the easy access to good-quality toys and the exciting outdoor play area. Children feel safe and secure.
- Staff question children well and check their achievements regularly. They make sure that they make good progress from their starting points.
- Leaders and staff provide effective role models. This encourages children to develop good personal skills and good manners. Staff ensure that children are well-behaved, polite and helpful.
- Staff make sure that children enjoy their learning. For example, staff encourage children to improve their awareness of their world as they talk to children about the Queen's birthday and other celebrations.
- Strong partnerships with parents ensure that parents are fully involved in their children's learning. Leaders keep parents informed about their children's progress through a secure online program.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make enough use of text and written instructions to help children understand that words have meaning.
- Children are not consistently encouraged to count objects for themselves so that they increase their knowledge of numbers.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to learn that words have meaning
- encourage children to count objects and numbers for themselves more often.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed many different activities in the playroom and outdoors, and listened to discussions between children and staff to see the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector looked at many of the documents that the pre-school leaders use for the service, including information about safeguarding procedures.
- The inspector looked at examples of children's past achievements and sampled information about their progress.
- The inspector had several discussions with the manager and the chair of the committee about the service at appropriate times during the inspection, and conducted a joint observation with the play leader.
- The inspector spoke to many parents to obtain their views about the pre-school.

Inspector

Denise Morris

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leaders and staff are very clear about what they need to do if they are concerned about a child in their care. They ensure that they update their safeguarding knowledge regularly. Safeguarding is effective. Leaders know how well children are doing. They make effective use of self-evaluation to identify areas for improvement. Leaders support staff well and make sure that they have good skills by providing regular training and professional development. For example, staff share their teaching with each other through peer observations to improve their skills. Leaders have high expectations for the children in their care and they monitor their achievements and progress well. Staff make effective use of technology to update parents about their children's development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff improve children's communication and language well, such as through stories, games and discussions. Children enjoy the themed activities that enable them to use their imaginations as they dress up and talk about their roles. For example, children were enthused by the pirate-themed activity which encouraged them to extend their language and communication skills. Children interact well with staff as they play games to identify letters and sounds. Staff encourage children to improve their physical skills by riding bikes and climbing and sliding in the exciting outdoor area. Staff record children's achievements regularly. They use the information gathered to plan for the next steps in children's learning and share these with parents. Children learn about their community, for example, through local trips and visits.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff keep children safe. They are kind and caring, and ensure children's well-being, taking good care of them. For example, staff show children how to ride bikes safely and how to use knives carefully to cut their fruit. Staff provide good role models. They encourage children to share and take turns with each other. Staff promote children's good behaviour and social skills, enabling them to develop positive relationships. Staff encourage children to learn about diversity. For example, children celebrate many different festivals to increase their awareness of other cultures. Children learn to respect others.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress. They have many opportunities to develop their independence, such as regularly picking up their toys and choosing their own activities. Children develop good mathematical skills. For example, they learn to identify numbers and shapes during games about pirates. Overall, children successfully develop their early reading skills and are well prepared for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	105882
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	1029012
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	35
Number of children on roll	32
Name of registered person	Noahs Ark Preschool Cullompton Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP521123
Date of previous inspection	17 September 2015
Telephone number	01884 35586

Noah's Ark Preschool operates from Cullompton Baptist Church, in Cullompton, Devon. It was first registered in 1991. The pre-school is open during term time only from 9.15am to 3.15pm on Mondays to Thursdays. The pre-school employs nine staff, many of whom are qualified at level 3. The pre-school is in receipt of funding for children aged three and four years.

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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

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 Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, 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 4234, 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 www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2016

