



Office for Standards  
in Education

## NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 133509

DfES Number: 597214

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 09/03/2004  
Inspector Name Anne Jeanette Faithfull

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care, Out of School Day Care  
Setting Name Cygnets of Henley  
Setting Address Valley Road School  
Valley Road  
Henley-on-Thames  
Oxfordshire  
RG9 1RR

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of The Management Committee of Cygnets of Henley 3394360

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name The Management Committee of Cygnets of Henley  
Address Valley Road School  
Valley Road  
Henley-on-Thames  
Oxfordshire  
RG9 1RR

## **ABOUT THE INSPECTION**

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public that the nursery education for funded three and four year old children is of an acceptable quality. Inspection of nursery education also identifies strengths and weaknesses so that providers can improve the quality of educational provision and help children to achieve the early learning goals (elgs) by the end of the Foundation Stage. This inspection report must be made available to all parents.

If the setting has been inspected previously, an action plan will have been drawn up to tackle issues identified. This inspection, therefore, must also assess what progress has been made in the implementation of this plan.

### **Information about the setting**

## INSPECTION OF THE NURSERY EDUCATION PROVISION FOR FUNDED THREE AND FOUR YEAR OLDS.

### How effective is the nursery education?

Cygnets of Henley offers good quality nursery education where children make generally good progress towards the early learning goals. Children make very good progress in personal, social and emotional development and communication, language and literacy. Children are confident, happy, secure and eager to participate in all experiences and activities offered.

Teaching is generally good. Staff provide a range of activities and resources to encourage the children's development, however, there are limited opportunities for the children to access everyday technology and experience malleable materials on a daily basis. The children behave well in response to the high expectations and sensitive support of staff. There are systems in place to support children with special needs and who have English as an additional language.

A planning system is in place and is continuing to be developed, however plans at present do not identify the individual learning needs of the funded children from the other children who attend the nursery and no written evaluations of planned activities takes place to help identify if suitable for the funded children to help ensure they move onto the next stage.

Leadership and management is generally good. The owner and staff work well as a team and are committed to the continued improvement in the quality of education provided. The staff work hard to support each other and contribute well to the running and development of the nursery. All staff are encouraged to take part in the planning of the daily activities offered.

The partnership with parents is very good. Parents receive information via newsletters and a notice board. A keyworker system is in place and gives parents the opportunity verbally to share their concerns, observations and discuss their child's progress daily.

### What is being done well?

- Children's personal, social and emotional development is very good. They are confident, competent and interested in all activities offered. Good relationships have been formed, the children are well behaved and interact well with each other and staff.
- Staff work well together as a team to provide an interesting and stimulating environment for the children. They effectively use open-ended questions to help develop children's communication and thinking skills.
- Staff have developed a very good partnership with the parents, they are informed verbally of their child's progress any information or concerns are shared. Newsletters and notice board inform parents of activities and events

taking place.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- development of the planning system to ensure individual learning needs of the funded children are being met
- the evaluation of planned activities to ensure activities are suitable for the funded children and help to move them onto the next stage
- opportunities for children to experience malleable materials
- opportunities for children to use everyday technology in daily routines and activities.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

The nursery has made generally good progress since their last inspection. Staff have attended training to increase their knowledge and understanding of special education needs.

Staff now effectively use open-ended questions to extend children's communication, thinking and learning.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are confident, interested, enthusiastic and eager to participate in all activities. The children can express themselves well. Relationships are very good with each other and staff, the children show consideration and support for others. Children negotiate well with each other and have a clear understanding of right and wrong, they share and turn take when required.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children communicate and listen well to each other visitors and staff. Children's contributions in circle time are encouraged and valued. Older and more able children are beginning to recognise their own name. Activities provided foster language and literacy skills. Staff effectively make good use of open ended questioning to extend children's thinking and communication skills.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Staff make good use of everyday opportunities to extend children's understanding of number, counting is included on many occasions including number rhymes and card games. Children are beginning to recognise shape and size, more able children can confidently count to 9 and beyond however there are limited opportunities for the more able children to experience subtraction in activities provided.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

Staff make effective use of circle time to encourage children talk about events in their own lives, and to begin to learn about the lives of others. Children had completed a display for St David's Day. Children are given the opportunity to experience how things live and grow in the outdoor area. Children have limited opportunities to experience everyday technology in daily situations and activities.

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children's physical skills are promoted by effective use of the indoor and outdoor areas. Staff encourage children's awareness of the space both around themselves and others. Staff provide opportunities to encourage the children to develop control when using tools, such as glue sticks and pencils, however there are limited opportunities for children to use malleable materials daily. Staff encourage children to learn useful information about health and hygiene.

**CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children participate enthusiastically in imaginative play and stories. Children are encouraged and enjoy singing familiar songs and rhymes. Staff provide good opportunities to extend children's learning through role-play individually and in group sessions. There are limited opportunities for children to explore textures daily. Displays observed show children are given the opportunity to extend their knowledge of shape, form and dimension.

**Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately.**

## **OUTCOME OF THE INSPECTION**

The provision is acceptable and is of good quality overall. Children are making generally good progress towards the early learning goals. The next inspection will take place in three to four years time.

## **WHAT THE SETTING NEEDS TO DO NEXT: THE KEY ISSUES**

- continue to develop the planning system in place to ensure individual learning needs of the funded children are being met
- ensure written evaluations take place on activities offered to ensure activities are suitable to move children onto the next stage
- provide opportunities for children to experience everyday technology in daily routines and activities
- provide opportunities for children to experience malleable materials daily.

*The provider must draw up an action plan within 40 working days of receipt of this report showing how the key issues detailed above will be addressed. The action plan must be made available to all parents and to the Local Authority if required. An evaluation of the action taken will form part of the next inspection of funded nursery education.*