

# Cygnets of Henley Ltd

Valley Road Primary School, Valley Road, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, RG9 1RR



## Inspection date

1 April 2015

Previous inspection date

24 February 2012

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Children are happy, confident and settle well at the nursery. All children benefit from the secure key-person approach, which promotes their emotional well-being and relationships.
- Staff enhance the communication and language skills of children of all ages. They talk to the children, ask a range of questions and sing songs together. Staff help children to understand the consequences of their actions from an early age. For example, they talk about the toys being on the floor and why it's important to keep tidy so they do not hurt themselves.
- The management team implement robust recruitment procedures. This ensures that references and checks are sought prior to employment to help make sure that staff are suitable to work with children.
- Strong working relationships with outside agencies aid children's overall developmental progress and promote continuity of care.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently encourage parents to contribute their observations from home, to assist their assessment and monitoring of children's progress.
- Children do not have many opportunities to play with toys and resources inside which support their sensory development.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage parents to contribute further to their children's learning by, for example, adding to their children's progress records
- provide a wider range of sensory experiences for children.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching in the playrooms and outdoor play area.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and children's learning journals, and discussed these with staff.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including policies relating to safeguarding matters, risk assessments and daily attendance registers.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.

### Inspector

Tracy Bartholomew

## Inspection findings

### **How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good**

The quality of teaching at the nursery is good; this in turn promotes children's learning and development. Children benefit from the good range of activities planned for them which helps them to progress in all seven areas of learning. For example, children exploring with Russian dolls gain valuable skills in mathematics as they compare sizes and discuss colours and patterns. Children's learning and development are well tracked through observations and assessment. Staff gain awareness of where children are in their development and successfully plan for the next steps in their learning. Parents have a variety of opportunities to contribute to their children's learning, for example, through verbal communication, accessing records and providing useful information about their children when they start. However, staff do not always actively involve parents in the ongoing assessment of children's progress.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good**

Children enjoy freedom to play and explore indoors and older children can freely choose to play outside. This allows them to engage in physical activities, such as playing with balls and drawing with chinks on a large scale. Children have a good amount of toys and resources available to them. These are accessible in low level drawers and baskets which promotes children's freedom of choice. However, children have a limited amount of toys which support their sensory development, as the majority of toys are plastic. Children benefit from the balanced menu offered by the cook which supports their dietary needs effectively. Older children acquire good independence skills, ready to progress to school as they go to the serving table and say how much they would like and then collect their meals, safely carrying them back to the table.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good**

The management team work well with the staff and ensure that arrangements for monitoring, training and appraising staff performance are strong. Staff have two-monthly support meetings with the manager and then have targets set to help them advance their knowledge and skills. Staff have regular training and are encouraged to cascade what they learn to the rest of team. For example, recently staff attended training on the specialist safeguarding which has been relayed back to all other staff to increase their knowledge of their roles and responsibilities. All required policies and procedures, including safeguarding and complaints are in place and well understood. The premises are secure and closed-circuit television is in operation to further safeguard the children. Management have a clear vision for the future of the nursery. They effectively evaluate the provision and seek parents' views to assist them. Their well-targeted action plan includes updating the nursery and garden area.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	133509
<b>Local authority</b>	Oxfordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	836375
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	25
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	37
<b>Name of provider</b>	Cygnets of Henley Limited
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	24 February 2012
<b>Telephone number</b>	01491 414434

Cygnets of Henley Ltd registered in 1997. It operates from two rooms in premises attached to the Valley Road School in Henley-on-Thames. The provision provides day care for children and operates from 8am until 6pm, all year round. In addition, they run an out-of-school club from the school premises from 3pm to 6pm term-time only, and a holiday club during school holidays which operates from 8am until 6pm. There are 11 part-time/full-time staff working with the children; of these seven have early years qualifications at Level 2 and above. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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