

Cygnets Childcare Centre

Egerton Park Children's Centre, Egerton Road, Bexhill-On-Sea, East Sussex, TN39 3HL



Inspection date

13 August 2015

Previous inspection date

16 September 2013

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Outstanding | 1 |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| | Previous inspection: | Good | 2 |
| How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend | | Outstanding | 1 |
| The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children | | Outstanding | 1 |
| The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision | | Outstanding | 1 |
| The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings | | | |

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff create a very safe and highly stimulating environment. They plan all areas exceptionally well and make sure all resources are easy for children to reach.
- Children of all ages are extremely confident and independent. They make choices about what they want to play with and have a very positive attitude to learning.
- Deployment of staff is excellent and children receive consistent support from a team of skilful practitioners. As a result, all children make very good progress in their learning and development.
- The manager is passionate about her role and is constantly looking for ways to improve the outcomes for children. She involves staff, parents and children when evaluating the provision.
- The manager monitors the quality of teaching extremely well. She provides support and guidance when needed and encourages all staff to attend training to improve their skills further.
- The highly successful partnership with parents means all children's individual needs are met. Staff regularly share information about children's achievements and give parents ideas about activities to do at home.
- Staff prepare children exceptionally well for their move to school. They work closely with teachers and sometimes support children who need extra help during their first few weeks in school. This provides continuity of care and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the garden area further to give children more opportunities to explore nature.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playrooms and the outdoor play area.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, the staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at planning documents and children's learning records.
- The inspector discussed the nursery's self-evaluation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a range of documents.
- The inspector spoke with parents to gain their views of the nursery.

Inspector

Fran Fielder

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is excellent. Staff know the children extremely well and plan a very broad range of activities that are exciting and challenging. During conversations, staff show they are truly interested in what children are saying. They listen carefully and ask questions that are relevant and encourage children to expand on their ideas or recall past events. Young children love looking at photographs of their family and confidently tell their friends who each person is. Older children concentrate exceptionally well while playing card games. They invite friends to play and help new children understand the rules. Children relish outdoor play and plant fruit and vegetables, such as strawberries and runner beans. However, there is scope to develop the outdoor area to enable children to further explore nature.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Children develop very close relationships with staff who are extremely kind and caring, and are good role models for the children. As a result, children naturally provide excellent support for new and younger children. For example, they show new children where all the resources are and explain they can choose anything they want to play with. They describe the book area as being 'nice and comfy' with 'lots of really good books'. Children learn how to keep themselves safe when playing. They talk confidently about how to hold and use tools safely. Children enjoy healthy snacks and plenty of outdoor play. This helps children understand how to keep themselves healthy.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

The manager has a very secure understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements. Recruitment and induction procedures are extremely thorough. This ensures all adults are suitable and fully prepared for their role in supporting children's play and learning. The manager monitors staff performance exceptionally well and assesses their training needs. Staff attend regular safeguarding training and have an excellent understanding of child protection and the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child in their care. There is a very comprehensive monitoring system that enables staff to track children's progress. Any gaps in children's learning are quickly identified. Staff plan activities based on individual needs to ensure children make the best possible progress given their starting points. The nursery works closely with external agencies, such as speech therapists, to secure support for children who may need specialist help. Parents are extremely pleased with the progress their children make.

Setting details

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|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Unique reference number | EY300796 |
| Local authority | East Sussex |
| Inspection number | 1022472 |
| Type of provision | Full-time provision |
| Registration category | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Age range of children | 0 - 5 |
| Total number of places | 38 |
| Number of children on roll | 121 |
| Name of provider | East Sussex County Council |
| Date of previous inspection | 16 September 2013 |
| Telephone number | 01424 725 880 |

Cygnets Childcare Centre registered in 2005. The nursery operates from Egerton Park Children's Centre in Bexhill, East Sussex. Children have access to two playrooms and a secure outdoor play area. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm for 50 weeks of the year. It closes for a week at Christmas and the first full week of August.

The nursery is registered on the Early Years Register. It is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery currently supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language.

There are 12 members of staff who work with the children. All hold a recognised early years qualification at level 3. Two members of staff hold a Foundation Degree and one holds a BA honours degree in early 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.

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