

Horspath Nursery

Horspath Primary School, Blenheim Road, Horspath, Oxfordshire, OX33 1RY



Inspection date

9 March 2015

Previous inspection date

21 November 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	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 meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff focus successfully on seeking the views of individual children to plan ongoing activities. This approach means that children engage well in their play and enjoy activities that have a personal meaning for them.
- Staff are well organised and work effectively as a team. As a result, routines run smoothly and children receive good support in their care and learning.
- Staff support children's play successfully. They have a consistent approach and use good-quality teaching strategies to extend children's learning.
- There is a strong focus on helping children to understand the benefits of healthy lifestyles to promote their well-being.
- Staff use effective strategies to engage parents in the life of the nursery, which effectively meets recommendations from the last inspection.
- A strong focus on supporting personal, social and emotional development helps children to become resilient, caring and confident.
- Staff receive good support from the management team to enhance their professional development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always organise whole group story times effectively to fully meet the needs of all children.
- While staff are successful in assessing the progress of individual children, they do not rigorously compare the progress of different groups of children to enhance learning outcomes.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of story times to fully meet the needs of all children in the group
- compare the progress of different groups of children, such as boys and girls, to identify any trends, using this information to further improve learning outcomes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager, staff and a representative of the parent committee. The inspector talked to parents available on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector looked at planning documentation and children's assessment records.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff, and the nursery's self-evaluation form and action plans.

Inspector
Gill Little

Inspection findings

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

Children proudly talk about their personal diaries, which staff use to illustrate their individual ideas for ongoing activities. Staff use this information well, together with careful assessment procedures, to tailor learning experiences specific to each child. In addition, staff use the diaries effectively with parents to help them support their children's learning at home. Staff extend discussions, ask questions, explain and demonstrate to support children's learning effectively. For example, they showed children how to thread different objects to make necklaces and how to fold a piece of paper into an envelope, enhancing their physical development and concentration skills. Staff make activities purposeful, such as writing letters to deliver to friends, so that children relish the challenge. They read stories with expression and link these sensitively to children's own experiences. However, not all children engaged well at story time, due to the length and complexity of the book. Overall, staff support children well in preparation for their next stages and for school. Staff work closely with local schools to share information about individual children to promote continuity in their care and learning.

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

Staff promote healthy lifestyles actively with children, such as making soup with vegetables they have grown in the garden. They engage parents well in this process, providing ideas for healthy lunch boxes through social media. Children are able to access the outdoor area freely. They took turns to negotiate an obstacle course with good support from staff, showing confidence in their physical skills and an understanding of how to wait in line. Staff are very kind and caring, helping children to develop positive behaviour skills and good relationships. Key persons know their children well and meet their individual needs effectively.

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

The committee and staff have a clear understanding of their responsibilities to meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. There is a strong focus on safeguarding children and providing a safe environment. Good qualification levels within the staff team result in positive outcomes for children. Effective support through the management structure and opportunities for ongoing training help staff to improve their practice. For example, a refresher training session helped staff to make improvements to assessment procedures to enhance individual experiences for children. The committee, staff and parents show a strong commitment to further development, such as improving the presentation of the book corner and purchasing new books.

Setting details

Unique reference number	134332
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	841061
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	40
Name of provider	Horspath Nursery Committee
Date of previous inspection	21 November 2011
Telephone number	01865 876 750

Horspath Nursery registered in 1993 and is managed by a committee of elected parents. It operates from a classroom in the grounds of Horspath Primary School, in the village of Horspath in Oxfordshire. The nursery has its own outdoor play area. The nursery supports children learning English as an additional language. Sessions operate on weekdays during school term times from 9am until 3pm, including a lunch club. Breakfast club sessions are from 8am until 9am. After-school sessions are from 3pm until 6pm Monday to Thursday and until 5pm on Friday. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 10 staff, of whom nine hold relevant qualifications.

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