

**Inspection date**

11 March 2015

Previous inspection date

16 December 2008

<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		Outstanding	1
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

- The childminder offers exceptionally good opportunities for children to develop their early literacy skills. As a result, they make excellent progress towards the recognition of letters and pronouncing them correctly. This helps to prepare them extremely well for their future learning and eventual move to school.
- The childminder uses highly effective assessment systems to monitor children's progress and identify any gaps in learning quickly.
- The childminder uses highly successful strategies that engage all parents in their child's progress. This helps to provide excellent continuity towards their next steps in learning.
- The childminder provides good opportunities for children to develop their self-help and motivation skills. For example, she provides tissues within easy reach and encourages them to blow their own noses.
- The childminder has a strong awareness of how to safeguard children. She understands the procedures to follow should she have a concern about a child's welfare. She carries out thorough risk assessments to help keep children safe.
- The childminder works closely in partnership with her co-childminder, and they identify strengths and weaknesses of practice to drive improvements together.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder is not always consistent when questioning children to ensure she fully maximises their opportunities to share their knowledge and understanding of the world.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the use of questioning techniques even further to maximise children's chances to share their knowledge and understanding of the world.

## Inspection activities

- The inspector conducted a tour of the premises during the inspection.
- The inspector had a discussion with children, the childminder and her co-childminder.
- The inspector observed children during activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector gathered the views from parents through discussions during the inspection and through written feedback.
- The inspector looked at a range of relevant documentation relating to safeguarding, policies and procedures, and learning and development.

## Inspector

Helen Porter

## Inspection findings

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

The childminder works in close partnership with her co-childminder to provide an exceptionally good educational programme. She has an excellent understanding of how children learn. She provides an extremely well-resourced environment both indoors and outdoors to extend children's all-round learning. The childminder offers excellent and easily accessible resources, which promote children's early literacy skills. For example, outside she encourages children to recognise letters on posters. She encourages children to practise their early writing skills with chalks on the blackboards. When outdoor, the childminder teaches children about growth by encouraging them to plant their own seeds. However, at times, she does not ask them questions that encourage them to think and share their ideas. For example, she asks children if they are going to water the plants rather than asking questions to discover their knowledge about growth. The childminder introduces mathematics into children's play consistently. For example, she draws shapes on the ground outside and children attempt to copy and name them. The childminder uses consistently clear words with the children to help to build their vocabulary and, as a result, children are making excellent progress in their language and communication skills. The excellent relationship she has with parents helps her successfully gather information about children's achievements from home. This helps to provide continuity in children's learning.

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

The childminder and her co-childminder have implemented an effective key person system, and have developed good bonds with all children. This helps children to settle quickly and form secure attachments. Children behave very well because the childminder constantly reminds them of what she expects from them. The childminder organises activities that help children to learn how to keep themselves safe. For example, she takes them to the local fire station to learn about fire safety. The childminder builds good relationships with other provisions, such as local schools. This helps her to share information about children's achievements and smooth the moves for them between her provision and school.

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

The childminder has a good knowledge of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She works strongly together with her co-childminder to meet the learning and development, and safeguarding and welfare requirements. The childminder is qualified and experienced. She continues to access training to further her knowledge and skills, and to enhance outcomes for children. The childminder consistently gathers views and suggestions from parents and children to help her improve the quality of her service.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY308688
<b>Local authority</b>	Oxfordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	834258
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childminder
<b>Registration category</b>	Childminder
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	6
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	11
<b>Name of provider</b>	
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	16 December 2008
<b>Telephone number</b>	

The childminder was registered in 2005 and lives in Thame, in Oxfordshire. She works with another childminder each weekday, all year round. She has a level 3 early years qualification .

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