

Inspection date	14 April 2015
Previous inspection date	22 June 2012

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

- The childminder places strong emphasis on keeping children safe. Regular risk assessments ensure her house is a safe place for children to play. She talks to children about how to stay safe, and this helps them gain awareness of risk.
- Children have access to a good range of toys and resources that support them to learn in the seven areas of learning.
- Children have daily opportunities to interact with nature and learn about their local environment as they play in the garden and visit local parks.
- Partnerships with parents are good. An effective two-way flow of communication ensures parents are kept well informed about their children's day.
- The childminder make careful assessments of children's learning. This leads her to plan activities that reflect children's individual needs. As a result, all children are making good progress in their learning and development.
- Children are happy and settled in the childminder's care. They are confident and have high self-esteem because she makes them feel safe and secure.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder relies on a limited range of techniques to extend children's development. For example, she uses questions that require single word answers that do not fully encourage children to expand their vocabulary or use sentences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop a wider range of teaching strategies and questioning techniques to encourage children to consider their responses, think through their actions, answer using more than one word and learn to solve problems.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at play, indoors and outdoors, and the childminder's interactions with them.
- The inspector sampled documents, including policies, risk assessments and records of children's learning.
- The childminder and the inspector conducted a joint observation.
- The inspector had a tour of the premises and looked at resources and toys.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took into account their views.

Inspector

Natasha Crellin

Inspection findings

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

The childminder supports children's interests well. They learn about the natural world as they explore the well-tended garden, digging for worms and talking about the similarities and differences between insects. Children develop coordination and hand strength as they fill pots with play dough. The childminder plays alongside children and talks to them as they play. However, she does not always use a wide range of questions and teaching strategies to extend their thinking and communication skills. This results in children using non-verbal communication, such as shaking or nodding their heads in response to a question, or single word answers rather than speaking in sentences. The childminder completes good observations of children's learning. These help her to identify what children need to learn next. She shares information with parents about children's progress on a daily basis. This means that parents are kept well informed of the activities that the childminder provides and they get clear advice on how to support their child's learning.

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

The childminder has close and affectionate bonds with the children, which supports their emotional well-being. She has also supported them to develop strong emotional attachments to each other, and children play well together and enjoy each other's company. Older children are strong role models to younger children, and they learn to share, negotiate and take turns. Children have free access to a wide variety of resources that support learning in all areas. The childminder takes children on daily outings to toddler groups and local parks. This encourages them to mix with others and helps develop social skills. The childminder has formed links with other professionals, such as the nursery teacher, to get guidance on how to prepare children for their move to school. This ensures children are well supported as they move to the next stage of their education. Children are encouraged to be independent in their personal care needs. For example, older children wipe their own noses and know to throw tissues in the bin and wash their hands. As a result, children are developing good self-care skills.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of how to develop children's learning. She effectively monitors the delivery of a balanced educational programme. Effective policies and procedures ensure children are kept safe. Since registering, the childminder has demonstrated commitment to her continued professional development by gaining a level 3 qualification in childcare. She is reflective of her work and welcomes suggestions from parents and children to help develop the quality of her provision.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY439729
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	824453
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	22 June 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2011. She lives in Didcot, Oxfordshire. She is open all year round, except public holidays and family holidays. She is open from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday.

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