

Inspection date	20 April 2015
Previous inspection date	24 November 2009

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 has a good understanding of the learning and development requirements and, overall, she plans effectively to help children make good progress.
- The childminder gains and uses ongoing information from parents to help her meet children's changing needs and build on their interests. As a result, children are happy, secure and confident.
- The childminder understands the importance of promoting children's health and safety. She continually assesses and minimises risks to children, enabling them to play in the house and garden safely.
- The childminder considers the views of parents and uses her good monitoring of children's progress to help her evaluate her provision and set challenging targets to improve.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, the childminder does not give children sufficient time to respond to their questioning, missing opportunities to further develop their problem solving and thinking skills.
- Children have fewer opportunities to explore messy play with natural materials, such as sand, water and cornflour mixed with water, to help younger children fully explore using their senses.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the good teaching methods already in place by giving children more time to think and respond to questions to develop their problem solving and thinking skills to the maximum potential
- increase opportunities for younger children to fully explore using all their senses, by further extending the range of natural materials available to them.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities as the childminder interacted with children in the house, and as children played outside.
- The inspector looked at children's learning records, and sampled the childminder's policies and formal records.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector considered the written views of parents and those spoken to on the day of inspection.

Inspector

Victoria Weir

Inspection findings

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

The childminder assesses children's progress precisely and sets challenging next steps in their learning so they make good progress. She is skilled at playfully building and extending on children's previous learning during activities. For example, children developed their literacy, mathematics and imagination as they retold a shared story about St George, and created flags. The quality of teaching is good as the childminder makes suggestions, demonstrates resources and provides explanations. She asks many challenging questions. However, on occasion, the childminder does not always give children sufficient time to respond with an answer. As a result, children do not always fully extend their thinking or problem-solving skills during play. Overall, children receive good support for their developing communication skills. For example, the childminder uses effective commentary for younger children as they play with pens. She teaches older children new technical words as they pretend to be builders. The childminder prepares children well for the next stage in their learning.. For example, older children learn to read and write their name, letters and numbers. Younger children develop good social skills as they play with larger groups of children and learn to help themselves.

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

The childminder provides healthy snacks and the children enjoy daily outdoor play. She teaches children good personal hygiene practices and promotes self-care, as appropriate. As a result, children develop an understanding of how good food, exercise and water help them stay healthy. Children form strong emotional attachments to the childminder because she is kind, caring and a good role model. Consequently they are confident, motivated and behave well. The childminder teaches children how to keep themselves safe. The environment is welcoming and a range of activities promotes children's all round development. However, the childminder provides fewer opportunities for children to explore messy play. For example, activities, such as sand, water and cornflour mix, are not always available daily to fully promote younger children's sensory development.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of, and meets the legal requirements for, the Early Years Foundation Stage. Robust policies, procedures and recent training help her to safeguard children. The childminder's accurate monitoring of children's progress helps her identify and quickly close any gaps in children's development. The childminder has established good communication with other settings that the children attend and with parents. This promotes good continuity in children's learning. The childminder makes effective use of self-evaluation and training to improve the quality of her teaching and service.

Setting details

Unique reference number	134900
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	1008319
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	24 November 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered with Ofsted in 2000. She lives in a village near Witney, Oxfordshire. The childminder offers care from Monday to Friday, throughout the year.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
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M1 2WD

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