

Childminder Report

Inspection date

27 April 2015

Previous inspection date

1 April 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 successfully plans and provides a good range of toys and activities that effectively enhance children's learning and development.
- The childminder has a welcoming environment which is attractively resourced inside and out. Children benefit from the free access to the garden which allows them to independently direct their own play through free choice.
- The childminder supports children's healthy lifestyle and takes account of dietary preference and allergies, through offering nutritious and appropriate snacks and drinks. This maintains children's good health.
- The childminder has good working relationships with parents other professionals involved in children's care, which provides good continuity of care and learning.
- The childminder is committed to advancing her knowledge and skills and has successfully completed her level 3 diploma in childcare. This has a positive impact on her ability to meet the developmental needs of the children in her care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, the childminder answers the questions she poses, before giving children the opportunity to think about their answers. Consequently, they do not always have time to develop their own ideas.
- Children's health is generally maintained overall. However, the childminder occasionally forgets to encourage children to wash their hands prior to snack to learn the importance of good hygiene.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give children enough time to formulate and consider their answers when asking them questions
- improve children's understanding of the importance of good personal hygiene through consistent encouragement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the sitting room, garden and kitchen and dining area.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at planning documentation, children's learning journeys and a range of policies and children's records.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through available letters, cards and notes.

Inspector

Tracy Bartholomew

Inspection findings

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

Children are happy and confident in the care of the childminder. They enjoy a variety of activities and play experiences which effectively link to the planned topics and enhance the children's development. For example, when children are learning about bugs, the childminder reads and sings songs about insects and animals. She extends this by organising a bug hunt in the garden. The childminder promotes children's language and listening skills and understanding well, through discussion and questioning. Children enjoy playing imaginatively and enjoy playing with the cooker and making up meals, which successfully supports their developing understanding of the world.

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

Children benefit from a welcoming and homely environment, so they feel safe and secure. The children play happily and comfortably with their friends and clearly enjoy the childminder's company as she plays with them. Together they all laugh and interact well, which shows that relationships are strong. Children's independence is well promoted as they are given opportunities to do things for themselves, such as taking off and putting on their own shoes. This promotes their self-help skills ready for their next stage of learning. Children play in a clean and well presented home. Their behaviour is good and they benefit from the high amount of praise and encouragement.

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

The childminder has a strong understanding of her roles and responsibilities to meet the requirement of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has a secure understanding of her duty to safeguard children and is knowledgeable about what to do if she is concerned about a child. The childminder knows her strengths and what she needs to do to improve her practice. She is committed to enhancing the provision for the good of the children. The childminder has good relationships with the parents. She ensures that they are kept well informed of their children's development through written communication, discussion and by providing daily photographs of their children at play. As a result, this promotes continuity of care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY254956
Local authority	West Berkshire (Newbury)
Inspection number	1005946
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	2
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	1 April 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2002. The childminder lives in Thatcham, Berkshire.

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