

Childminder Report

Inspection date

4 June 2015

Previous inspection date

23 January 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 how children learn and her teaching is focused to meet their individual needs. She provides an exciting range of challenging learning experiences for children inside, outside and in the wider community. As a result, children are motivated and enthusiastic to learn.
- The childminder provides a warm, welcoming environment where children feel safe and secure. She interacts with children in a positive manner and at their level, providing them with lots of eye contact and positive comments. This supports their emotional well-being, self-esteem and confidence.
- The childminder has a secure knowledge of her responsibility to keep children safe. She has completed child protection training and she reviews risks in the environment and outings regularly to ensure children's well-being and welfare is effectively promoted.
- Parents are kept well informed of their children's day and their progress. This regular communication ensures information is shared to provide children with consistency and continuity in their care, learning and development.
- The childminder effectively uses a range of self-evaluation and reflective practice to ensure areas for improvement are identified in order to support children's future well-being, safety and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder sometimes misses opportunities to stretch children's thinking and challenge their ideas as she skilfully questions them.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of all opportunities to skilfully extend and challenge children's ideas and thinking skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder's practice with the children.
- The inspector discussed the children's development.
- The inspector discussed the process of self-evaluation and how the childminder obtains the views of all the users of her provision.
- The inspector examined a selection of documentation.

Inspector

Melissa Cox

Inspection findings

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

The childminder provides children with a wide variety of age-appropriate activities that help them to make good progress in their learning. This is because the childminder is aware of what they know and what they need to learn next. Children willingly take part in activities and become highly engaged. The garden is an integral and continuous part of the learning environment. Children enjoy mixing water into a cornflour mix, making cakes in the mud kitchen or using chunky chalk on the path to practise 'writing' their names. The childminder uses a variety of teaching methods such as demonstrating how to do things and giving them guidance as they play. However, on occasion, she does not always take every opportunity to encourage children to think through problems for themselves and come up with their own answers.

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

Children demonstrate a strong and trusting bond with the childminder, which promotes their well-being. Children behave well because they are kept fully engaged in their play and are supported well by the childminder. Her good role modelling and meaningful discussions about acceptable behaviour help children to understand right from wrong. She encourages them to choose what they would like to play with as part of their confidence building. Children learn to do simple things for themselves such as tidying away after play. They have good opportunities to be active and engage in a range of physical play. For example, they enjoy swimming in the childminder's pool in warm weather. The childminder supports children to develop an understanding of a healthy diet through offering healthy meals and snacks. They enjoy collecting eggs from the chickens, which they use in baking.

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

The childminder has a very good understanding of the requirements. Policies and procedures that support children's health, safety and well-being are successfully implemented. She effectively reflects upon her practice to support her to identify areas for development. The childminder keeps check on children's progress and the activities they take part in to ensure they continually make good progress. The childminder effectively keeps her knowledge and skills up to date through regular training. Since her last inspection, the childminder has improved her understanding of good-quality teaching, which contributes to her secure understanding of how children learn and develop. She utilises this knowledge effectively in her practice to promote outcomes for children. The childminder regularly reviews and accurately assesses children's progress so that each one is ready for their school learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY246264
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	832967
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	23 January 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2004. She lives in Wantage, near Oxfordshire. She operates Monday to Friday, for most of the year.

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