

Childminder Report

Inspection date

9 June 2015

Previous inspection date

16 June 2011

| 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 | | Outstanding | 1 |
| 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 close working relationships with the local schools and other professionals. This means children are well prepared when they move up to school.
- The childminder regularly introduces mathematical concepts into children's play, such as counting, estimating and measuring. This supports children to develop a good understanding of mathematical ideas.
- The childminder is constantly attentive to children's needs. Children develop extremely secure emotional attachments with the childminder and they enjoy her company and are happy and settled in her care.
- Children's safety is a priority for the childminder. Her home is well organised, safe and secure. Regular risk assessments and constant vigilance ensures children have a safe place to play.
- Excellent communication with parents ensures they are fully informed of their child's progress and daily activities. Parents speak very highly of the childminder and feel that their children are settled and enjoying a wide range of experiences.
- Well-developed safeguarding procedures are followed to ensure children are kept safe. The childminder fully understands her responsibility to protect children and refreshes her knowledge by attending relevant courses.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, very able children are not offered high levels of challenge in order to extend their learning and to develop higher level problem-solving skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for very able children to be challenged in their learning in order for them to make accelerated progress, in line with their capabilities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at play 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 read written feedback provided by parents about the childminder.

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 uses good teaching techniques, such as clear explanations and effective questioning, to extend children's thoughts and ideas. As a result, all children make good progress in their learning and development. She provides and adapts a variety of well-planned activities that reflect children's interests. This means children become motivated and interested learners. For example, children concentrate well as they plant seeds in the pots they decorated. This helps them to become curious and engage in the natural world. However, at times, very able children are not stretched to their full abilities, meaning they do not make accelerated progress in line with their abilities. Children have many opportunities to learn outside. Babies crawl through tunnels and older children play hopscotch and ride tricycles around the garden, developing their physical skills.

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

The children have close and secure attachments to the childminder who is caring and affectionate towards them. Children settle quickly as she ensures parents are comfortable in her home before they leave their child. The childminder has strong and trusting relationships with parents. Children develop very positive attitudes to healthy lifestyles as they enjoy healthy snacks and learn self-help skills, such as washing their hands after messy play. The childminder is an extremely good role model as she plays alongside children, helping them to learn how to take turns and share. The childminder always speaks to children in a calm and reassuring way, giving them full attention as they speak. This makes them feel important and develops their self-esteem. A strong feeling of security and belonging means that children participate enthusiastically in activities and make full use of the well-resourced environment. Children regularly participate in special events at the school, such as sports day, and become very familiar with school life. This prepares them well for when they start school.

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

Children's safety is a priority for the childminder. Regular risk assessments of her home help her to focus on safety. The childminder has a good understanding of her role to protect children. She attends safeguarding training to ensure that her knowledge is up to date. She has a good understanding of the learning and development requirements. She keeps detailed records of children's progress. The childminder has robust systems in place to evaluate the effectiveness of her work. She reflects on her strengths and highlights areas for development. This helps her to ensure her practice is continually improving. She also takes into account the views of the children and the parents through questionnaires, regular discussions and suggestions.

Setting details

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|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Unique reference number | 954302 |
| Local authority | Oxfordshire |
| Inspection number | 842420 |
| Type of provision | Childminder |
| Registration category | Childminder |
| Age range of children | 0 - 8 |
| Total number of places | 6 |
| Number of children on roll | 11 |
| Name of provider | |
| Date of previous inspection | 16 June 2011 |
| Telephone number | |

The childminder has been registered since 1997. The childminder lives in Didcot, Oxfordshire. She minds children from Monday to Thursday between the hours of 7.30am and 6pm, all year round excluding public holidays and family holidays.

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