

Childminder Report

Inspection date

1 July 2015

Previous inspection date

23 March 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		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 plans interesting activities that cover all areas of learning. This helps children to make good progress from their starting points.
- The childminder forms positive relationships with children. Parents share information about children's care and learning needs before they start. This means the childminder is able to plan for them from the outset. Consequently, children settle quickly.
- The childminder promotes children's understanding of healthy lifestyles effectively. Children enjoy healthy snacks and meals, and have regular opportunities for daily fresh air and exercise.
- The childminder encourages children's independence effectively. For example, she encourages them to wash their hands before eating and after toileting, and helps younger children to learn to feed themselves. Consequently, children develop good self-care skills.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. The childminder provides parents with regular feedback about children's achievements and they discuss children's achievements from home. This two-way flow of information provides continuity for children and supports parents' involvement in their children's learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There are few opportunities for children to see print in the environment, to strengthen their early literacy skills.
- The childminder does not always make the most of opportunities outside to extend children's creative skills and spontaneous play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to strengthen their creative skills and spontaneous play outside, through use of a greater variety of media and materials
- provide children with opportunities to see print and symbols in the environment, to strengthen their understanding that print carries meaning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas used for childminding.
- The inspector observed the childminder and children during play.
- The inspector read testimonials from parents to gain their views.
- The inspector examined a sample of policies, paperwork and other children's records.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's self-evaluation process.

Inspector

Alison Southard

Inspection findings

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

The childminder provides interesting activities that promote children's learning and development. She plans activities to support children's early reading and writing skills, to help them prepare for their eventual move to pre-school or school. The childminder uses mathematical language as children play. For example, she counts chairs with children outside and repeats words to help them acquire new vocabulary. She looks at books with children and extends their learning about the pictures through careful questioning. Children enjoy being creative. For example, they explore different sounds that instruments make. The childminder has a good variety of resources for children to choose from, overall. The childminder teaches children about people's differences and similarities, to develop their understanding of diversity. She takes them on outings to teach them about the world around them and she plans around their interests. For example, children enjoyed a trip to the farm to extend their interest in animals.

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

Children are content and behave well. They feel safe and secure in the welcoming environment the childminder provides. The childminder is a positive role model and as a result, children are confident and know what is expected of them. Children benefit from attending group times where they develop their social skills and they visit the school when collecting older children. These outings help to prepare children emotionally for their move on to other settings and school. The childminder practises the evacuation drill regularly with children and discusses road safety when on outings, to help them learn about keeping themselves safe. The childminder implements policies and safe practices effectively to promote children's well-being, and health and safety, and shares these with parents.

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

The childminder monitors children's learning well and uses effective systems to plan for their next steps in learning. This results in children having good quality care and learning opportunities. She has a secure understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements, and what would give her concerns about a child's welfare. She carries out regular risk assessments of her home and areas she visits to help ensure children are kept free from hazards. The childminder reflects on her practice well and keeps her assistant up to date, for example, with safeguarding issues. She considers what works well and looks to implement new ideas. For example, the childminder wishes to gain further qualifications in the future. She seeks feedback from parents and takes into account children's views and interests. She attends regular training and shares ideas with other childminders to help maintain good standards and positive outcomes for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	119226
Local authority	Bracknell Forest
Inspection number	836048
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	23 March 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2000. She lives in Sandhurst, Berkshire. Her husband is registered as her assistant. The childminder works all day from Monday to Friday for most of the year. The childminder has a relevant level 3 qualification.

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