

Childminder Report

Inspection date

29 July 2015

Previous inspection date

4 April 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 provides good quality care and learning for the children. She knows the children well and completes regular observations of them at play to assess their learning, and enhance their overall development.
- Children behave well and have formed good friendships. The childminder gives each child a good amount of praise and encouragement, which successfully builds children's self-confidence and self-esteem.
- The childminder promotes children's healthy lifestyle, through regular discussions and frequent snack and meals times. This maintains children's health while promoting their understanding of how they can stay healthy.
- Children are cared for in a safe and secure environment, which enables them to feel protected as they explore and investigate within the environment.
- The childminder has built strong relationships and has good communication with parents, which enables her to gather the information she needs to meet children's individual needs well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always encourage children's early-writing skills, or increase their awareness that print carries meaning, during activities.
- Overall, the childminder provides good mathematical activities, however, less focus is made on promoting children's awareness of mathematical language and colours.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- introduce more mathematical language, especially around colours during play and planned activities
- introduce more opportunities for children to build upon their early-writing skills to support their awareness that print carries meaning and extend their literacy development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children participating in activities inside.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector sampled children's developmental records, a selection of policies and procedures, and took account of parental feedback through questionnaires.
- The inspector gave feedback to the childminder at the end of the inspection.

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 have a good range of activities available to them which promote their learning and support their imaginations and understanding very well. The childminder is skilled at engaging with the children and providing activities which interlink to the areas of learning well. For example, children cut out pictures of objects they are going to experiment with, and then stick these onto headed paper to show their views on whether they think these objects will float or sink. This promotes their imaginations, creativity and understanding. However, fewer chances are given to children to make marks for a purpose, to build on their early-writing skills and their literacy development. Children's mathematical development is well promoted as the childminder talks, encourages and listens to the children. She encourages them to use descriptive words for how the objects feel and if they think it is heavy or light. Although, less emphasis is placed on recognising colours. Children then carry out the experiment, which the childminder uses well to engage children and encourage them to think critically and be actively involved in their learning.

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

Children are relaxed, confident in the childminder care. They interact with, listen to, and warmly invite her into their play, which demonstrate that they feel secure and she is important to them. Children have a good range of toys and resources available to them, which support their interests and learning well. Together they enjoy playing board games, which helps them to understand the concept of winning and losing, to aid their turn taking and learn expected behaviour. Children's self-help skills are encouraged and supported well by the childminder, as she encourages the children to tidy away, and they wash their hands before snacks. This helps children to be confident in their own personal needs, in readiness for their move to school. Children have daily opportunities to be outside and enjoy trips to local parks, explore the local community and play in the garden.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of all the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She is fully aware of her responsibilities to safeguard children, and has a strong understanding of her roles and responsibilities in relation to referring a child protection concern. The childminder has an appropriate understanding of her strengths and areas for future improvements. She is committed to training and has all mandatory training in place, such as maintaining a valid first-aid certificate. The childminder is dedicated to her role and is keen to progress her knowledge around observation and assessment to improve how she records these. The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of the importance of working in partnership with others helps promote continuity in care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY416451
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	832347
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	4 April 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2010. She lives in Abingdon, Oxfordshire. The childminder operates weekdays, for most of the year. The childminder has an appropriate level 3 qualification in childcare.

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