

Childminder Report

Inspection date

29 September 2015

Previous inspection date

24 January 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The quality of teaching is good. The childminder provides a broad range of well-planned learning experiences.
- The childminder carefully assesses and monitors children's progress to ensure she identifies and addresses any gaps in their learning.
- The childminder has excellent knowledge about the procedures to follow if she is concerned for a child's safety. Thorough risk assessments promote children's safety in the home and on outings.
- The childminder works effectively with parents and external agencies to put strategies in place to quicken children's progress.
- Highly effective partnerships between teachers and other early years providers are established. This means that children are supported extremely well during times of change.
- Parents make many positive comments in their reference letters. These include how kind, approachable, committed and thoughtful the childminder is. They recognise and appreciate the depth of her knowledge and her care for each family.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always focus sharply enough on updating her knowledge, to strengthen further her already good teaching so that children make even more rapid progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the already good teaching by keeping professional knowledge fully up to date, to help children make progress as quickly as possible.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed care routines and teaching, and the impact of these on children's safety, welfare and learning.
- The inspector reviewed records and procedures relating to safeguarding, risk assessment, and health and safety, and discussed a range of other procedures relating to children's safety and welfare with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's records, the childminder's planning and evaluation of activities, and how she exchanges information with parents.
- The inspector reviewed written communication from parents.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder about the impact of her training, experience and practice on children's well-being, learning and development.

Inspector

Helen Robinshaw

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder is very experienced and has high expectations for children and for herself. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder meets all the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She reflects on her practice and continually improves her provision for children and their families. Children benefit from her wonderful selection of exciting resources. The childminder uses these very successfully to spark children's interests and curiosity in new subjects. Children quickly join in with activities and relish new opportunities to discover and investigate. They make very good progress in their learning. Effective partnerships with other professionals help the childminder meet children's individual needs promptly. She prepares children well for the next stage in their learning, including their move to school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified childminder has very competent teaching skills. She knows exactly how to support children's learning and her questioning skills help children to think more deeply about their learning. She is very skilled at devising inviting activities, which she adapts to meet the differing needs of the children present. Children are keen to explore new ventures and think creatively, for example, about their constructions and use of materials. The childminder establishes open, professional relationships with parents that are also warm and supportive. She keeps parents very well informed about their children's achievements. Thorough monitoring and assessments by the childminder ensure she challenges children appropriately and that their learning outcomes are good.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder creates a warm, safe and welcoming home. Children's behaviour shows they feel secure, valued and confident to explore the rich resources that surround them. Children behave extremely well for their ages. The childminder promotes sharing and turn taking which supports their social skills and respect for others. The childminder plans engaging and exciting activities and helps children to enjoy them safely. She encourages children to be actively involved in identifying and assessing any possible risks in the environment where they play. For example, children work as a team to sweep up their messy play before moving on to another game. The childminder shows children how to work together and helps them to understand another person's point of view. Children clearly develop strong and special relationships with each other and with the childminder. Children enjoy plenty of fresh air and outings that engage them in new activities to strengthen their physical skills.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are enthusiastic learners. They are keen to learn and make good progress from their starting points. Children develop confidence and independence, preparing them well for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	117002
Local authority	Reading
Inspection number	840076
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	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	24 January 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1997. She lives with her family in Whitley Wood, Reading. The childminder operates her service all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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