

Childminder Report

Inspection date	15 October 2015
Previous inspection date	3 February 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 childminder has a strong awareness of the Early Years Foundation Stage and provides children with an exciting range of activities to extend, engage and challenge their learning.
- The childminder promotes the children's communication and language skills very well. She consistently communicates with the children and asks questions to advance their understanding and build on their vocabulary, so they become confident communicators.
- Children are happy and confident learners. They have freedom to make their own decisions in play and manage tasks very well independently.
- Behaviour is good as the childminder teaches children to share, have an understanding of others and to keep themselves safe.
- Children make good progress in their learning because the childminder monitors their development closely and shares journals of children's learning with their parents.
- The childminder demonstrates a strong commitment to ongoing professional development. She has attended food hygiene training and is proactive at keeping her regulatory training up to date. This has a positive impact on children's learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not always have enough opportunities to fully explore creatively with their senses to extend their learning.
- The childminder does not always use every opportunity to encourage children to build their pre-writing skills to enhance their literacy development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to practise their early writing skills throughout the learning environment
- strengthen opportunities for children to extend their sensory awareness and explore their creativity to enhance their learning experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and the childminder's interaction with children inside and out of the home.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout observations.
- The inspector spoke to children and interacted in their play.
- The inspector examined documentation, including children's records and learning journeys, and the childminder's policies and procedures.

Inspector

Tracy Bartholomew

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder manages her provision well and has a secure awareness of her responsibilities. This means that children receive consistently good teaching. Safeguarding is effective, as the childminder has a competent understanding of the procedures to follow to safeguard children. This successfully promotes children's welfare. The childminder works closely with parents and their feedback shows they feel happy with her care. The childminder understands her role to work in partnerships with other early years providers where children also attend, to support children's care and learning. She understands the importance of robust self-evaluation and ensures she reflects this in her practice regularly.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are happy and become engrossed in the activities on offer. The childminder provides a well-organised learning environment, which has a good balance of free play and adult-led activities. This allows children to play for a purpose and enables the childminder to plan and meet their individual needs, interests and development. The childminder is skilled at incorporating new vocabulary and mathematical language into children's play. For example, as young children explore the musical instruments, she talks to them about the sounds and colours. Children enjoy exploring imaginatively and have a wide range of materials and tools that children use to create their own arts and crafts. Children enjoy going out daily in the childminder's garden and in the local community, such as parks and music groups, which helps them learn to socialise and communicate with others.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children demonstrate that they feel safe and confident in the care of the childminder. They happily explore the environment with their cars and are confident to explore places in the home, such as tents. The childminder is a good role model and promotes a healthy lifestyle effectively. She maintains regular routines, such as hand washing, going outside and healthy eating. The childminder helps children to understand how to manage their own safety by reminding them to use tools with care. Children play well together and have developed good friendships. The childminder encourages them to understand each other's feelings and uses a variety of resources to successfully help children learn about the wider society respectfully.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points and are well-prepared for their next stages in development. They make particularly good progress in their communication and language development, which ensures they are ready for future learning and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY283805
Local authority	West Berkshire (Newbury)
Inspection number	826838
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	3 February 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2004. She lives in Newbury, Berkshire. She operates her service Monday to Friday for most of the year. The childminder has an early years childcare qualification.

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