

Childminder Report

Inspection date	9 December 2015
Previous inspection date	17 October 2011

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 experienced childminder has a good understanding of child development. She knows children in her setting well as she observes them and gathers information from parents. She uses all this knowledge to provide opportunities for children to reach the next identified steps in their learning and make good progress.
- The childminder provides a wide range of activities that help children gain good mathematical skills. For example, pre-school children enjoy using scanners in shops and working out simple money problems.
- Support for children's emotional well-being is very good. Children have established close attachments to the childminder, who is very caring and attentive to their needs. This has a positive impact on children's confidence, growing independence and motivation to learn.
- Partnerships with parents support children very well. Information sharing is effective and parents are extremely positive about the childminder's provision.
- The childminder researches practice and reviews her provision to make improvements that ensure positive outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children are not always given enough time to extend their thinking and to become more involved in their activities.
- The childminder does not make full use of partnerships with other settings that children attend, to provide the highest levels of continuity for children's learning and care.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that children are always given enough time and challenge to extend their thinking during activities
- strengthen the arrangements for sharing information with other settings that children attend, in order to provide the highest levels of support for children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities inside as the childminder interacted with children.
- The inspector looked at children's records and learning journeys, and sampled the policies and formal records. The inspector discussed the childminder's self evaluation process.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the observations. The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector checked the qualifications and training of the childminder, along with evidence of suitability.
- The inspector considered the written views of parents.

Inspector

Victoria Weir

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder understands and meets the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Safeguarding is effective. She has completed appropriate safeguarding training and knows the correct procedures to follow in the event of any child protection concerns. The childminder uses a range of policies and procedures, including a clear safeguarding policy to support her practice, and she shares these with parents. She monitors children's progress to address any gaps in their learning. She continually reviews the activities and experiences she offers children to ensure they reflect their interests and stages of development. The childminder uses ongoing research, training and her established links with other local childminders to further develop her practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides a stimulating learning environment. She uses the children's changing interests to engage and motivate them. Children enjoy making choices in their play. Children choose when they want to play outside and help themselves to many interesting toys and resources. Children gain good communication and language skills. For example, the childminder talks to children about what they are doing, or what they can see. Children learn from everyday routines. For example, children counted their plates and considered the risks as they cut their own fruit. Children receive good support for starting school. Children's early literacy, mathematics and independence develop as they play with each other. For instance, children counted and recognised numbers and matched shapes as they played with pretend play food.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are clearly very happy in the childminder's care and enjoy spending time with her. The childminder is a good role model. She encourages good manners, sharing and turn taking. Children develop their social skills and confidence. Children benefit from opportunities to play with other childminders and their minded children. The childminder ensures children have healthy and nutritious meals and snacks. She takes effective steps to minimise risks to children in her home and on outings. Children learn to run, jump, climb and balance with confidence. The childminder teaches the children to recognise the importance of physical exercise. They enjoy gardening as they grow fruit and vegetables.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress relative to their starting points. They successfully develop the skills necessary for school and the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	134263
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	983688
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	17 October 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1991. She provides care from Thame, Oxfordshire. The childminder holds a level 3 childcare qualification. She operates her service Monday to Thursday from 8am to 6pm throughout the year.

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