

Childminder Report

Inspection date

11 January 2017

Previous inspection date

16 June 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 is very effective in modelling new words and more complex phrases as she plays with the children. Children are confident communicators who are good at adding their ideas to stories and exchanging ideas as they play together.
- The childminder knows how to report any concerns she may have to protect the children in her care. She is alert to potential risks to children when they attend community groups and as they explore the natural world around them together.
- Children behave well for their ages. For instance, they work well together as they routinely feed and care for different garden birds.
- The childminder ensures children have daily opportunities for outdoor play and physical development. They learn to handle small items with greater control; for instance, as they join in activities such as messy play and fastening dolls' clothes.
- Children show good levels of engagement in their learning. They have the time they need to think, play and explore. Outcomes for children are good.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not fully build on the information she gathers from parents about children's skills and abilities when they start attending, to help them progress more rapidly from the start.
- The childminder does not consistently monitor all aspects of children's learning thoroughly, to help them make even better progress in all areas of development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gain more detailed information about what children can already do when they join the setting to give a clearer baseline for assessing future progress
- refine the arrangements to monitor children's progress over time to ensure that any delays in any aspect of their learning are quickly identified and addressed.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed care routines and teaching, and the impact of these on children's learning and development.
- The inspector reviewed policies and discussed with the childminder her procedures relating to children's safety and welfare.
- The inspector listened to and spoke with the children as they played.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents in their written communications.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder about the impact of her training, experience and practice on raising outcomes for children.

Inspector

Helen Robinshaw

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Since the last inspection, the childminder has used self-evaluation effectively overall and is using a broader range of ways to improve her knowledge and practice. For example, she has a good understanding of the legal requirement to complete the progress check for two-year-olds to identify, share and develop children's strengths and any weaker areas. She discusses children's progress and current interests with their parents, to ensure she provides continuity in children's learning. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder regularly updates her knowledge in child protection and follows the latest guidance to keep children safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Drawing on her extensive experience with children, the childminder is good at observing children's skills and planning games where she can help them learn new skills. For example, when children concentrate on mastering simple jigsaw puzzles, the childminder introduces more complex ones, to further encourage their interest. Children enjoy fitting the pieces together while she helps them make links between written numbers, counting objects and numbers on a clock. The childminder instinctively knows how to support children's speech and language development. For example, she increases opportunities for children to sing, recognise and say sounds, and express their ideas through role play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder creates a warm, welcoming environment where children clearly feel safe, relaxed and confident to try new challenges. For example, they stop to add numbers to a jigsaw as they collect coins and a cash till for their pretend shop. The childminder is sensitive to children's misunderstandings and talks them through conflicts. Young children learn to accept that their friends may do things differently and they begin to negotiate or be more tolerant and accepting. The childminder skilfully balances periods of intense learning and concentration with good humour. Children laugh and enjoy each other's company as they play games such as tickling and hiding. The childminder nurtures the lasting, caring relationships that children form with her and each other.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and develop many useful skills to underpin their future learning and eventually prepare them for school. For example, as they pretend to shop for tea, children plan their trip, get themselves ready and think through the things they need to remember. They work through a sequence of events as they select, buy and pack healthy food. Children learn to recognise numbers on coins and count out pennies. They ask the pretend shop worker for help and thank him politely. Children reflect on their learning and are well prepared to try out new skills in other situations.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY345222
Local authority	West Berkshire (Newbury)
Inspection number	1057735
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	16 June 2016
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2007. She lives in Thatcham, West Berkshire. The childminder is open all year with the exception of family holidays and bank holidays. She works each weekday and offers some Saturday care by arrangement.

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