

Childminder Report

Inspection date

12 January 2017

Previous inspection date

8 April 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 and her assistant work together well to plan a stimulating environment that motivates children to learn. Children make good progress.
- The childminder gives lots of praise and encouragement to help build children's confidence and self-esteem. Children learn to respect each other and behave well.
- The childminder has met the actions and recommendations set at her last inspection. For example, she now observes children effectively and plans challenging activities that meet children's individual learning needs.
- The childminder reflects on the quality of the provision well. She gains the views of her assistant, the parents and children to guide positive improvements for children. She shows commitment to ensure that she develops her knowledge and skills further through her own research and sharing ideas with other childminders.
- The childminder places a strong focus on children's safety. For example, she regularly discusses road safety with them when on outings to help them develop an awareness of keeping themselves safe.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not gain as much information from parents about children's skills and abilities as she might when children first start, to aid planning for their progress.
- The childminder misses some opportunities to build on relationships with other settings children attend, to provide greater consistency in children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gain a greater range of information from parents about what children know and can do when they first start, to help plan more precisely for their learning from the outset
- further develop relationships with other settings children attend to provide consistency in children's learning between the settings.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas used for childminding.
- The inspector observed the childminder, her assistant and the children during play and completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector examined a sample of policies, documents and children's records.
- The inspector read feedback from parents and spoke with the childminder and the assistant to gain their views.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's self-evaluation process.

Inspector

Alison Southard

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder and her assistant have a good knowledge of the procedures to follow to help protect children from harm, including from extreme views. The childminder completes regular checks of her home to help ensure children's safety. The childminder and her assistant supervise children well. The childminder monitors children's progress closely and promptly addresses any gaps in their learning. She provides good support to the assistant to help her to develop her knowledge and skills. For example, she mentors and coaches the assistant and provides regular supervision. The childminder exchanges useful information with parents as they drop off and collect their children, which helps to involve them in their child's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses her knowledge of how children learn effectively. She completes regular observations and assessments to support children's progress. The childminder includes mathematics well into children's play. For example, she counts with children and discusses shapes as children explore a range of different textures. Children have lots of fun and engage well with both the childminder and her assistant. The childminder encourages children to use their thinking skills well. For example, she asks children to describe how the different textures feel as they play. The childminder encourages children to be creative, for example, as they join in with action songs and rhymes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder and her assistant form positive relationships with children. The childminder helps children to develop their independence skills well. For example, at lunchtime she encourages them to help make the sandwiches. The childminder teaches children to make healthy choices and to develop good hygiene practices. She supports them to build on their physical skills well. For example, children have daily opportunities for exercise and use a range of equipment. The childminder helps children gain an awareness of similarities and differences well. For example, they learn to recognise differences between themselves and others as they look in mirrors. The childminder and her assistant help children to learn the routines and boundaries and to behave well.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain the skills they need in readiness for their next stage in learning and school. For example, they develop confidence in their abilities and learn to make choices in their play. Children have lots of fun as they learn new skills. They enjoy looking at books and use a range of resources to develop their early writing. Children learn about the world around them. For instance, when they go on outings to local playgroups where they interact socially with others.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY475907
Local authority	West Berkshire (Newbury)
Inspection number	1057972
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 6
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	6
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	8 April 2016
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2014. She lives in Thatcham, Berkshire. She routinely works with an assistant. The childminder works Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm for most of the year. The childminder has a relevant qualification at level 3.

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