

Childminder Report

Inspection date

17 October 2017

Previous inspection date

1 March 2017

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 has made improvements to her practice since the last inspection. For example, she now has up-to-date parental consents in place and can demonstrate that children are making good progress in their learning.
- The childminder is caring and offers a happy environment for the children. Children are confident in the childminder's home and behave well.
- The childminder plans a good range of activities inside and outside of her home. The activities take account of the children's interests and support their good developmental progress.
- Children play in a clean, safe and child-friendly environment. They enjoy a variety of healthy and freshly prepared meals, such as homemade soups, which contribute to their good health and well-being.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. For example, the childminder ensures parents receive daily feedback to promote continuity in children's care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not use all opportunities to help children fully develop their independence skills, such as changing their clothes.
- On occasions, the childminder misses opportunities to challenge children's thinking skills to help them express their ideas and solve problems for themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- create more ways to help children manage and build upon their independence skills
- extend opportunities to challenge children further, to increase their critical-thinking skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at play in all areas of the home used for childminding.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection, to discuss her practice.
- The inspector spoke to children as they took part in their activities, and observed their play and the childminder's interaction with them.
- The inspector took account of parents' written feedback and comments from recently completed questionnaires.
- The inspector looked at children's development files, planning, policies and procedures, and the childminder's self-evaluation document.

Inspector

Tracy Bartholomew

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good understanding of her role and responsibility to promote children's welfare. She is knowledgeable about the signs and indicators of abuse and knows what action to take if she has any concerns. The childminder reviews risks to the children well. For example, she updates her risk assessment procedure regularly and implements it well, to ensure children are safe. The childminder works successfully with all other professionals involved in children's care and education, to maintain consistency in children's care, learning and development. For example, she shares information about children's next steps and the progress they make effectively. Parents' feedback is positive and comments include how happy they are with the care the childminder provides. The childminder evaluates her practice effectively.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows the children well. Children are happy and settled in her care. The childminder supports children's social and communication skills well. For example, she takes children to toddler and music group sessions weekly to build their friendships with others. The childminder aids children's play and enhances their imagination well. For instance, she praises their good efforts as they have fun moulding sand and pretending that their starfish is swimming in the sea. The childminder encourages good manners at all times. For example, she teaches children to say, 'please' and, 'thank you' when appropriate, and children confidently model this in their play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder undertakes suitable training to advance her skills. For example, she has recently attended food hygiene training which has helped her to adapt her menu to provide well-balanced meals for the children. The childminder supports children's physical development well. For instance, children have many opportunities to explore and play in the natural world, such as visiting local woodlands and farms to play and harvest crops. The childminder provides children with healthy food and supports children's good understanding of self-care, for example, through good handwashing routines. The childminder supports children's understanding of how to be safe. For example, she reminds children to walk carefully down the steps in the garden so they do not slip.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident and motivated learners. They happily explore new activities with the childminder and she supports and develops their resilience as they play. For example, they persevere to successfully fit puzzle pieces together. Children are developing a strong understanding that print carries meaning. For instance, they enjoy looking at books and playing instruments to songs that the childminder reads to them.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY318381
Local authority	West Berkshire (Newbury)
Inspection number	1107629
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 6
Total number of places	4
Number of children on roll	2
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	1 March 2017
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2005. She lives in Midgham, Reading. She operates her service from 7am to 7pm on Monday to Friday throughout the year.

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