

Childminder Report

Inspection date

16 November 2017

Previous inspection date

10 November 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 caring and provides children with a welcoming and happy environment. Children are confident in the childminder's care and behave well.
- The childminder plans and provides children with a good range of activities that supports their interests and promotes the next steps in their development.
- The childminder observes and monitors children's development well. She liaises with parents and other professionals involved in children's education, to guide her planning and to help her to support children's ongoing developmental progress.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. For example, the childminder ensure parents receive verbal and written communication each day to help maintain continuity in care and learning.
- The childminder develops and improves her knowledge in various ways. For example, she ensures she keeps all mandatory training up to date, such as her first-aid certificate, and updates her skills and does research to support her professional development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not consistently extend children's learning about the world. For example, where the food they are eating comes from and how healthy eating affects our bodies.
- The childminder does not use self-evaluation as well as she could to identify what she could do to raise the quality of her provision even higher.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities to build on children's understanding of the world
- develop the use of self-evaluation further to identify ways to raise the quality of the provision even higher.

Inspection activities

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

Inspector

Tracy Bartholomew

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a strong awareness of her roles and responsibilities to keep children safe. For example, the childminder is confident in the signs and indicators of a child being at harm and is very aware of the routes of referral should she have any concerns about their welfare. The childminder's home is safe and secure. She undertakes a daily risk assessment to help children play in safety and protect their welfare. Written references from parents show that they are very happy with the care and education their children receive.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides a good range of activities, toys and resources to support the children's learning and keep them gainfully occupied. For example, children enjoy playing with media and materials, such as dough, to support their creative development. The childminder helps children to be imaginative well. For instance, she encourages them to dress up and play with the toy cooker, to support their imagination and develop their role-play skills. The childminder engages children and plans activities purposefully to support their individual learning needs. For example, she encourages children to count and use shape cutters in their craft play to aid their development and identified next steps in mathematics. The childminder uses carefully thought-out activities to encourage children's speaking and listening skills, and successfully supports their communication and language development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy, confident and well behaved in the childminder's care. Children benefit from the good amount of praise and encouragement offered by the childminder, which helps to support their self-confidence. The childminder develops children's understanding of safety well. For example, she teaches children what to do in the event of a fire to help them learn how to remain safe in an emergency. The childminder supports children in their understanding of maintaining good hygiene practices. For example, she reminds children to catch their coughs and they learn to follow hygienic handwashing routines. Children have daily opportunities for outdoor play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children successfully learn skills that prepare them well for their future learning. They develop good independence skills and confidence to do small tasks for themselves. For example, they take off their coats and shoes, and then at lunch they are encouraged to peel their fruit and open packaging. Children develop good social skills. For instance, they are encouraged to mix and play nicely with other children when they visit toddler sessions and soft-play centres. Children develop their literacy skills well, and enjoy exploring with writing materials, such as chalks, and looking at the readily accessible books with the childminder.

Setting details

Unique reference number	510202
Local authority	West Berkshire (Newbury)
Inspection number	1070424
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	10 November 2014
Telephone number	

This childminder registered in 2000. She lives in Thatcham, Berkshire. The childminder operates Monday to Friday from 7.45am until 6pm, all year round.

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