

Childminder Report

Inspection date

20 November 2017

Previous inspection date

8 December 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 uses her creative skills to provide a rich and stimulating environment. Children are enthusiastic to learn. They enjoy exploring the wide range of exciting activities that the childminder designs. This helps them to explore ideas further and develop their imagination.
- The childminder successfully uses her good understanding of how young children learn. This helps her to plan activities that support children's language skills well. For example, she shares books and asks a range of open questions to help children think about what they have seen and heard.
- Children have very high standards of behaviour and confidence. They help themselves to toys that extend their play. For example, they create stories about the characters in the doll's house. This supports children's high levels of emotional well-being and their independence and social skills.
- Partnerships with parents are well developed. There is a very close working relationship between parents and the childminder, which ensures that parents are fully involved in their children's learning and care.
- The childminder has developed extremely effective relationships with early years professionals and the other settings that children attend. Children make good progress and are ready for their next stage in learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder plans stimulating activities for the children, but does not always precisely identify children's next steps in learning, to help them progress more rapidly.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve planning to identify children's next steps in learning more accurately, to help them make even better progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the setting, as the childminder pointed out a number of health and safety features.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder in relation to observations of the children's play, learning and progress.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including children's records, certificates and the childminder's self-evaluation form.
- The inspector took account of parents' written views.
- The inspector observed and assessed the quality of teaching and learning.

Inspector

Heather Rushton

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder is very experienced and has high expectations of children and herself. She constantly develops her knowledge to provide activities that motivate all children. She has an excellent range of toys that helps all children to learn and value differences in culture. This helps them to develop respect for each other and broadens their understanding of the world. The childminder is very well organised and all her paperwork is clear and easy to understand. This helps parents to know what they are giving permission for, and helps them to understand exactly what the childminder legally has to do in her role. The childminder knows her strengths well. Safeguarding is effective. She places a high priority on keeping children safe in her care. She has recently completed a number of additional courses that have helped her to understand children's welfare needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder's assessments are accurate and help her to keep children eager to play and learn. For example, she has noticed that children are not achieving quite as well in mathematics as in other subjects, and to address this she is planning extra opportunities for children to practise mathematical challenges in their play. The childminder is very aware of how to support children to achieve their best. For example, when children ask to make a hedgehog she offers a range of stickers with points that help children to depict the hedgehog's spines. Older children know that there are materials for them to make bookmarks and help themselves to ribbons. They enthusiastically make rainbow pictures, as they scrape away the black on coloured card to reveal different colours.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are confident and extremely happy with the childminder. Her consistent expectations help children to learn routines quickly. The childminder places a strong importance on saying 'please' and 'thank you'. This helps children to be very polite and to share and take turns well. Children know they can help themselves to toys to extend their play. For example, children find the xylophone and play tunes to which they happily sing. Children are supported to sustain their concentration and remain focused. They use high-quality language to help them organise and clarify their thinking and understanding. For instance, when children want to eat their lunch they ask the childminder to help them to clear the table and to wash their hands.

Outcomes for children are good

Children talk with confidence. They are developing a curious, enquiring mind and they ask questions about the things that they find. Children's language skills are well developed. They look intently at pictures and words in books. This helps them to be well prepared in their early reading skills. Children solve problems. For instance, they work out how to complete difficult puzzles. Children learn their numbers and how to recognise shapes and sizes. For example, they talk about 'big' and 'small'. Children develop good independence skills. This helps them to be ready for their next steps in learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY229512
Local authority	West Berkshire (Newbury)
Inspection number	1070456
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	8 December 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2002. She lives in Theale, near Reading in Berkshire. There is an enclosed rear garden for outside play. The childminder works from 7.30am to 6pm from Monday to Friday all year.

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