

Childminder report

Inspection date	2 October 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Not applicable	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is good

- Children demonstrate exceptional behaviour and excellent levels of cooperation. They are very settled and develop highly positive relationships with the childminder and each other.
- The childminder works extremely well with parents to support children's welfare needs and she provides very well-considered guidance to help them overcome any problems.
- Children are confident communicators who express their feelings and preferences articulately.
- The childminder assesses children's development routinely and plans stimulating experiences to help them make good progress in preparation for their next stages in learning and for school.
- Children have a positive approach to learning and engage well in their play.
- The childminder supports her assistant successfully to understand policies and procedures, and to develop her practice.
- The childminder supervises children effectively and provides a safe, welcoming environment. She has a good understanding of safeguarding procedures to help protect children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, the childminder does not make the most of opportunities to challenge children fully and build on their ongoing interests and previous learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities to challenge children's thinking and problem-solving skills more consistently to build fully on their ongoing interests and the connections they make in their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors.
- The inspector and the childminder observed and discussed an activity together.
- The inspector talked to the childminder and children at appropriate points during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, the childminder's self-evaluation form, written comments from parents and evidence of qualifications and training for the childminder and her assistant.

Inspector

Gill Little

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder keeps herself and her assistant up to date with relevant information and she knows what to do if concerns arise about children's safety. She has a good understanding of how to recognise indicators of children at risk of harm and she follows clear procedures in response to these. The childminder monitors and evaluates her practice well, including the work of her assistant, to improve outcomes for children. For example, she extends resources for children's exploratory play in the garden to increase opportunities for creativity and mathematical development. Since registration, the childminder has achieved a level 4 qualification, demonstrating a positive approach to professional development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder engages parents effectively in their children's learning and development through successful strategies. For example, she encourages them to join in with children's play, and she provides ideas and resources to support learning at home. The childminder shares information with other settings that children attend to achieve good levels of consistency in their care and learning. She provides interesting activities that children enjoy exploring, such as scooping natural materials onto weighing scales and into paper bags to develop their mathematical understanding. The childminder models language well, encourages children to engage in discussion and asks questions to help them make links in their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder provides very high standards of care and excellent guidance for parents to support children's development. For example, through her own meticulous research and professional development, she suggests extremely effective methods to manage children's problematic sleeping routines. Parents comment that this support has a very positive impact on family life and resolves difficult issues. The childminder teaches children very successfully to manage their feelings and behaviour, and to consider the needs of others, including people who are different from themselves. She provides excellent opportunities for children to develop skills for independence, such as encouraging them to wipe their noses and pour their drinks.

Outcomes for children are good

Children respond exceptionally well to the childminder as they listen carefully and follow routines cooperatively. They are confident to express how they feel and to talk about their daily experiences, demonstrating good communication and language skills. Children show a secure understanding of mathematics, as they count in sequence, recognise numerals and use mathematical language in their play. They develop effective hand-to-eye coordination and they enjoy making marks, helping to prepare them well for early writing. They narrate their play and use their imaginations effectively as they mimic the world around them, such as caring for babies.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY537642
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	10077078
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

The childminder registered in 2016 and lives in Thame, Oxfordshire. She occasionally works with her partner who is a part-time assistant. The childminder receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three. She offers full-time care on weekdays throughout the year, including out-of-school care. The childminder holds a recognised early years qualification at level 4.

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