

Childminder report

Inspection date	8 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		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is good

- The childminder and her assistant provide a warm, welcoming and well-resourced learning environment. Children are inquisitive and active explorers. They make independent choices in their play and display good levels of confidence and self-esteem.
- The childminder makes good use of personal research and training to update her knowledge and refresh her skills.
- All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress from their starting points.
- The childminder helps children to learn about the importance of healthy lifestyles. She provides healthy snacks and plenty of opportunities for children to enjoy and benefit from fresh air and exercise.
- Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder keeps the parents involved and well informed about their child's progress. For example, she sends them regular photographs and informs them about their child's daily routines and activities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, during small-group activities, some children are not fully involved in a meaningful way for the duration of the activities.
- The childminder's self-evaluation and improvement strategies are not effective in monitoring her and her assistant's teaching practice, to raise outcomes for children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- engage children as well as possible in some activities that encourage them to concentrate more and enhance their learning further
- develop self-evaluation to identify strengths and areas for improvement, including opportunities for professional development for the assistant in regards to teaching and learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the childminder and her assistants at suitable times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed activities, inside and outdoors.
- The inspector held a meeting with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of assistants.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's records, the assessments of children's progress, planning documentation and the childminder's self-evaluation form.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from written feedback provided.

Inspector

Amanda Perkin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder and her assistant have a good knowledge of the possible signs of abuse and know how to refer any concerns to the relevant authorities. She provides children with a safe and secure environment. The childminder makes sure all areas of her home are checked daily, and supervises children effectively. The childminder monitors children's progress to help her to close any gaps in their development and to plan for their future learning. The childminder regularly evaluates and reflects on the service she provides. She seeks the views of parents and children to inform areas for future development. For example, she plans to make further changes to her garden to enable her to extend learning opportunities, particularly for children who prefer to learn outdoors. The childminder ensures her assistant is fully informed and has a good understanding of her policies and procedures.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder makes regular observations and assessments of children's learning and uses this information to plan for their next stages of development. The childminder places a good focus on supporting children's language and communication. For example, she consistently adds new words into conversations to help extend children's vocabulary, uses some sign language and listens carefully to what they say. The childminder provides good opportunities for children to develop their creative skills and to help to promote their early writing skills. Children are motivated and excited as they use different resources to paint and chalk inside and outside. Children's understanding of different people, families, communities and traditions is effectively promoted through the opportunities that the childminder provides.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are very happy, settled and content in the childminder's home. The childminder has a loving, nurturing approach which helps children to build strong bonds with her. She is sensitive to their needs and attends to them promptly. The childminder effectively supports children's self-esteem in many ways. For example, she is very attentive and provides lots of praise and encouragement. Children behave well. They learn to share, take turns and play cooperatively. Children are sociable and confident. They learn to do things for themselves, such as pouring their drinks and putting their coats and shoes on.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and are well prepared for their next stage in learning and eventual move on to school. Children show a love of books. They eagerly anticipate the next event in a story and suggest the sounds different animals make. Children count and recognise numbers as they engage in their play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY535588
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	10057128
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

The childminder lives close to the city centre of Oxford. She offers care four days a week Monday to Thursday, all year round except family holidays and Christmas. The childminder holds a level 4 qualification and is working towards a level 5 qualification in early years. She works with an assistant daily. On occasions, her husband also works as an assistant.

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