

Childminder report

7 Big Barn Grove, Warfield, BRACKNELL, Berkshire RG42 3SD



Inspection date	15 October 2018
Previous inspection date	9 June 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The childminder does not risk assess effectively enough to ensure that children are always safe and not exposed to avoidable hazards.
- The childminder does not follow rigorous hygiene procedures or assess hygiene risks posed by pets to assure children's good health.
- The childminder misses opportunities to allow children to experiment with resources before using them for a purpose.

It has the following strengths

- Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder shares regular information with them about their child's care and asks for feedback to help improve her practice.
- The childminder skilfully helps children to gain communication and language skills. For instance, she provides commentary, models good language and introduces new vocabulary. Young children babble in response to the childminder's positive interactions.
- Children are happy, well settled and have a positive sense of belonging. They form strong attachments to the childminder, who meets their individual needs effectively.
- All children make good progress from their starting points. The childminder knows them well and monitors their development closely. She successfully plans activities to support their learning further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
use risk assessments effectively to identify all potential hazards, to ensure that children are not exposed to unnecessary risks.	20/10/2018

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

- take all necessary steps to minimise risks to children and promote their good health, particularly in relation to good hygiene practices and health risks posed by household pets
- provide more opportunities for children to explore and investigate resources before using them for a purpose.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas of the home used by the children.
- The inspector observed teaching practices and the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder to establish how she monitors children's learning and ensures children are kept safe.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder and discussed how she evaluates her practice.
- The inspector read the safeguarding policy and procedures.

Inspector
Ingrid Howell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has completed online training, receives regular updates from the local authority and has discussions with other childcare professionals to help keep her knowledge and skills up to date. She has a good understanding of the signs that indicate a child may be at risk of harm and knows the procedure to follow if she has any concerns about a child's welfare. She successfully helps children to understand how to keep themselves safe, such as when using apparatus at the park. However, she does not use thorough risk assessments to ensure she maintains a safe environment. For example, she fails to remove chairs that are stacked on top of small tables, which children could pull onto themselves.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy their time with the childminder, who plans a range of activities to encourage children to become engrossed in their play. Ongoing assessments enable the childminder to identify quickly any gaps in children's progress and implement plans to help them to catch up. Young children eagerly explore the well-resourced environment and experiment with electronic toys, such as pressing the buttons to make them light up and make sounds. The childminder provides good opportunities for children to learn about the wider world. For example, she takes children on visits to local parks and amenities and attends toddler groups to help extend their knowledge and understanding of diverse lives, cultures and backgrounds of different people.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

The childminder provides a welcoming and nurturing environment. Highly effective settling-in procedures allow the childminder to meet children's individual needs prior to them starting. Children's behaviour is good and the childminder supports their positive behaviour. For example, she praises children regularly and gives them clear boundaries and rules to help them to behave in a positive way. She provides opportunities to help children to learn the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle. For example, they regularly play outdoors, visit parks and are encouraged to eat healthy, nutritious meals. However, the childminder does not consistently follow robust hygiene practices. For example, she allows her pets to play with toys belonging to the children and does not assess the potential risks to children's health.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are happy, confident and eager to explore and investigate their surroundings. Pre-school children develop the skills they need to prepare them well for their future learning, such as school. For example, they learn to dress and undress themselves, recognise and write their names, count and complete simple addition and subtraction activities. Young children show an interest in exploring puzzles and listen as the childminder points out familiar animals to them.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY367119
Local authority	Bracknell Forest
Inspection number	10061691
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	9 June 2016

The childminder registered in 2007. She lives in Warfield, in Bracknell, Berkshire. The childminder works from Monday to Friday from 7.30am until 6pm, for most of the year.

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