

Childminder report

Inspection date	26 November 2018
Previous inspection date	31 March 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	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

This provision is good

- Children have strong emotional bonds with the caring and attentive childminder. This gives them a very solid base from which to explore, develop and learn.
- The childminder is a good teacher. She interacts effectively with children to support their learning. She gives children her full attention, and follows their interests as they play so they are keen to join in.
- The childminder provides interesting activities in her home and on many outings. Children thoroughly enjoy these stimulating experiences that engage and motivate them to learn.
- The childminder keeps a close check on children's development and quickly notices any gaps in their learning. She plans and provides activities that support what children need to learn next, so they all make at least good progress.
- The childminder works in close partnership with parents. She keeps them well informed of their child's progress and they value her useful advice on supporting their children's development at home.
- Children gain a very good awareness of the importance of healthy lifestyles, such as through regular exercise and eating nutritious meals that the childminder freshly prepares.
- Although the childminder supports children's speech development well overall, she sometimes speaks too quickly, so that children cannot hear clearly how words are pronounced correctly.
- The childminder has not taken opportunities to enhance her skills and knowledge to raise the quality her teaching to highest levels.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- speak clearly so that children can hear how words are pronounced and sentences formed, correctly
- improve knowledge of how children develop and learn further, to enhance teaching and help children make rapid progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with and observed the childminder caring for children in her home and while collecting them from nursery.
- The inspector discussed children's learning with the childminder and how she plans activities to help them progress.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including children's records and the childminder's policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of parents' written comments.

Inspector

Rachel Edwards

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The dedicated and experienced childminder provides a safe and welcoming home, where children feel happy and secure. Children can move freely and safely as they follow their own interests and find the things they need. The childminder is vigilant, for example, she checks sleeping children frequently. She updates her statutory training regularly and is confident about what to do if she has concerns for a child's welfare. She shares information with staff from other settings that children attend, so that they have a consistent approach to children's care and learning. She reviews her practice regularly to keep her knowledge fresh and up to date. She shares ideas with other childminders and seeks parents' and children's views. These help her make improvements, such as the way she shares information and uses her garden.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy the childminder's company. She sits with them to play and talks about what they are doing. She repeats important phrases to help develop children's speech, including those learning to speak English. The childminder helps children develop a love of books. She makes stories fun, for example, jiggling children on her knee as 'rocks' tumble down. Children laugh with delight and relish the lovely warm experience. The childminder takes every opportunity to help children learn and she moves seamlessly between activities, following children's interests. For example, she quickly finds a book that includes dinosaurs and vehicles, and when a toddler loses interest in drawing, she recaptures it by putting crayons in and out of a box. The childminder takes children on outings to enrich their day, such as the local farm, toddler group and rhyme time at the library. These give children rich opportunities to learn about the world and to broaden their vocabulary and understanding, giving a firm foundation for learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder encourages even very young children to do things for themselves. They help to tidy up and older children very capably change their clothes. They learn how to keep safe, such as practising road safety on the way to school and nursery. The childminder encourages children to think for themselves. For example, she asks a toddler if he is safer to sit or stand on a chair. He thinks for a moment before sitting down. Children learn to value differences between themselves and others, such as their home language or festivals they learn about. Parents contribute, for example, they bring special foods for all the children to try. The childminder works closely with parents, so they have the same approach, for example, in dealing with tantrums. Her calm and gentle approach helps children understand what is expected of them as they learn to manage strong emotions.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident, independent and concentrate well. They enjoy making marks in many ways. Older children begin to link letters with the sound they represent and show an interest in writing. They recognise and use shapes, count and sort well in their play. They play amicably with others, follow instructions and behave very well. They gain the skills they need for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY394949
Local authority	West Berkshire
Inspection number	10066596
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	31 March 2016

The childminder registered in 2009 and lives in Theale, in Berkshire. She works from 7.30am until 5.30pm on weekdays throughout the year. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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