

Childminder report

Inspection date	23 January 2019
Previous inspection date	22 July 2015

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

- The childminder is kind and caring. She provides a warm, nurturing 'home-from-home' environment for children. Children form strong bonds with the childminder. They are happy and settled in her care.
- The childminder makes good use of personal research and training to update her knowledge and refresh her skills. This helps her to promote good outcomes for children.
- The childminder has good links with staff at other settings that children attend. She works with them closely to provide continuity in children's care and learning.
- Children are actively encouraged to learn about mathematics. For example, they talk about what they see, noting the size, colour, shape and how many there are.
- The childminder carries out daily checks and thorough risk assessments of her premises, which help to promote children's safety. She supervises children well.
- The childminder does not gain very much information about children's learning and development when they first start to plan effectively from the outset.
- Although the childminder has a self-evaluation system, she does not make full use of it at times, to identify and set clearer targets to improve her practice further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gain more information from parents when children first start to plan for their learning from the outset
- improve the rigour of the self-evaluation process, and focus on identifying targets to help children make even better progress in their learning and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities while children played in the indoor play area. She discussed teaching methods with the childminder.
- The inspector observed and evaluated learning with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's records and planning, and discussed the childminder's policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents.
- The inspector undertook a tour of the premises.

Inspector

Amanda Perkin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a suitable understanding of child protection issues. She knows what to do if she has a concern about the welfare of a child. All required documentation, including policies, procedures and written permission from parents, are in place. The childminder uses regular discussions and daily diaries to share information with parents. Parents state that they would highly recommend the childminder, appreciating her flexibility and how she keeps them well informed of their child's day. Partnerships with parents are strong. The childminder occasionally works with an assistant. She 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 is an extremely confident and effective communicator with children of different ages and abilities. She encourages the children to ask questions and engages in lovely, meaningful conversations with them. For example, as children manipulated dough children identified how their shape looked like a rocket and the conversation developed into discussions around the moon and stars. The childminder completes observations and assessments of children's learning. She uses the information gained from these well to plan experiences for children. Children enjoy the time they spend with the childminder and show good levels of interest in what is provided.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children learn to behave well. They take turns and share their toys. Children benefit from lots of meaningful praise and encouragement from the childminder, which supports their emotional well-being. The childminder ensures that children learn about their own safety. For example, they learn what to do in the event of a fire, how to feed the pet rabbits and guinea pigs, and how to cross roads safely on their way to and from school. The childminder helps children to learn about the importance of healthy lifestyles. She discusses the value of healthy eating and provides plenty of opportunities for children to enjoy and benefit from fresh air and exercise. For example, children enjoy picking fruit and vegetables at a local farm. They enjoy eating what they have picked, such as fresh strawberries, raspberries, carrots and broad beans. This helps children to learn about healthy eating and where food comes from.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who are learning English as an additional language, make good progress in their learning. They are learning key skills to be ready for school when the time comes. Children have regular opportunities for physical exercise outdoors. For instance, they visit local parks and woods with the childminder and use the wide variety of resources in her garden. Children's interest in books is effectively fostered as they help themselves from the wide selection available. They enjoy listening to stories with the childminder and name the pictures displayed on the pages.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY285221
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	10065456
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	22 July 2015

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in Bicester, in Oxfordshire. She provides care from Monday to Friday, throughout the year. She occasionally works with her husband, who acts as her assistant.

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