

Childminder report

Inspection date	6 February 2019
Previous inspection date	18 July 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Parents enthuse about the care provided by the childminder. They describe how children 'love' attending and feel 'part of an extended family'.
- The childminder has high expectations of what all children can achieve. This highly qualified and experienced childminder uses her extensive knowledge of child development effectively to ensure best outcomes. Children make consistent progress and substantial development from their starting points.
- Children are incredibly imaginative and quick witted. They have a keen sense of humour and an extensive vocabulary which they use to great effect. For example, during lunch children recalled jokes they had heard and made up new ones based on familiar formats and experiences. This caused great hilarity.
- The childminder has high expectations of children's behaviour and is adept at helping children learn to manage their own behaviour. She listens carefully and responds sensitively, enabling children to express their opinions and make informed choices. Children respond extremely positively and their behaviour is exemplary.
- Children develop a good understanding of healthy lifestyles. The childminder provides healthy home-cooked meals and ensures children have abundant opportunities to be physically active.
- The childminder forms extremely effective and productive partnerships with other settings that the children also attend. This ensures continuity in children's care and learning, and facilitates successful transitions supporting children's emotional well-being.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to make the most of opportunities for continuous professional development to enhance existing quality practice further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder and they evaluated it together.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including qualifications, policies, suitability checks and children's records.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the childminder to provide feedback.

Inspector

Gillian Herring

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder diligently keeps her safeguarding knowledge up to date. She has a robust understanding of the signs that a child may be at risk of abuse or neglect and is confident in her knowledge of local safeguarding procedures. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder uses precise and insightful self-evaluation to ensure her provision promotes the best possible outcomes for children and her practice continuously improves. She builds on a vast wealth of existing knowledge and experience by actively seeking opportunities for continuous professional development. For example, the childminder has identified training courses she plans to access to refresh and deepen her safeguarding knowledge even further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Teaching is inspirational. The childminder expertly weaves teaching opportunities into everyday routines which are thoughtfully and meticulously planned. She provides children with ample time for rewarding interactions and playful learning. For example, on a walk to pre-school, children enthusiastically explored their environment. They showed accurate knowledge as they talked animatedly about shapes, colours and numbers they had found. The childminder skilfully engages with children to support their acquisition of communication and language. She provides a wonderfully language-rich environment and stimulating narrative which capture children's interest and imagination. Children are attentive listeners and expressive in their communications. The childminder is very responsive to children's needs, and she uses quality observation and incisive assessment to identify the next steps in their learning. She maintains excellent and purposeful communication with parents, which successfully supports children's learning both in the setting and at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder is passionate about supporting children's well-being and is incredibly attentive to their needs. Children flourish in a safe and nurturing environment where stimulating experiences are shared with an abundance of warmth and good humour. Children form strong emotional attachments and exhibit exceptionally positive behaviour. They are kind to each other and demonstrate high levels of cooperation and self-control. The childminder's consistent use of thoughtful praise contributes to children's high levels of confidence and self-esteem. The childminder uses highly successful strategies to help children learn to manage their own care needs proficiently. For example, young children show great pride in successfully putting on their own coats and pouring their own drinks.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are highly motivated and active learners who enthusiastically take on self-chosen challenges. They demonstrate high levels of critical thinking and independent problem-solving as they develop and apply strategies to achieve an aim. For example, older children attempted to roll a very large snowball. After thoughtful experimentation with a range of resources, they used a cricket bat as a lever and attempted to attach a foam hook and string. Children rapidly gain the skills they need for the next stage in their learning and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY475473
Local authority	West Berkshire
Inspection number	10075773
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	18 July 2016

The childminder registered in 2014. She lives in Great Shefford, Berkshire. The childminder has a childcare qualification at level 5. She operates Monday to Friday, for most of the year.

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