

Childminder report

Inspection date	13 February 2019
Previous inspection date	12 November 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 provides a varied range of activities that capture children's interests successfully. She assesses their learning accurately and plans well for their individual learning needs. Children make good progress in readiness for school.
- Children benefit from the homely and welcoming learning environment that the experienced and dedicated childminder provides. The childminder fosters children's emotional well-being effectively and meets their care needs well.
- The childminder develops purposeful relationships with parents. She effectively shares information on children's progress and successfully guides parents on how to build on this further at home. Parents comment positively on the provision and the childminder's kind and caring manner.
- The childminder accurately summarises her strengths and weaknesses. She takes effective steps to remain up to date, for example sharing practise ideas with other childminders which she uses to benefit the children in her care. She uses the views of parents and children well to further promote positive outcomes for children.
- The childminder does not plan for children's next steps precisely enough to raise their progress to the highest level.
- At times, the childminder does not give children enough time to think about their answers when she asks them questions.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus more precisely on identifying children's individual next steps in learning to help accelerate their good progress
- provide enough thinking time for children to consider their answers and respond to questions during their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder's practice with the children.
- The inspector discussed the children's development and progress.
- The inspector discussed the process of self-evaluation and how the childminder obtains the views of all the users of her provision.
- The inspector examined a selection of documentation.
- The inspector spoke to a parent to gather their views on the service.

Inspector
Melissa Cox

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a secure awareness of the signs that could indicate a child is at risk. She is clear on how she would respond to concerns, including those that link to extreme views or behaviours. She shows a good regard to keeping children safe and identifies and effectively minimises any risks. The childminder effectively shares information with other early years settings that children attend to promote continuity of care. She tracks and monitors children's development well and maintains their good progress. The childminder very occasionally works with a family member, who acts as her assistant. She ensures they are clear on children's individual needs and how to implement the policies and procedures effectively.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides a child-centered and well-resourced environment where children confidently explore and are curious learners. She uses effective teaching skills to support children's learning, particularly during her spontaneous interactions, in order to help children build further on what they know successfully. For example, during a story time she introduces concepts that support children's understating of positional language as they hunt for the characters in a book. The childminder provides plenty of opportunities for children to develop their mathematical skills and knowledge, such as counting and sorting items into groups. Children benefit from opportunities that support their creativity. For example, they show high levels of concentration as they enjoy a gluing and sticking activity.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder knows the children well and has established warm and caring relationships with each of them. She is a good role model who has clear and consistent boundaries for children's behaviour. For example, she encourages children to use good manners from a young age. She effectively supports children to share resources and be aware of the needs of others. The childminder supports children's good health well. She offers them a wide choice of healthy meals and snacks. They benefit from good support from the childminder to be independent and to learn how to keep themselves safe. Children enjoy daily outings, including to toddler groups and parks in the local community.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are keen and eager to learn. They use good manners, for example asking to get down from the table after mealtimes and thanking the childminder for their meal. Children are confident and articulate speakers who share their ideas frequently and lead their own play well. They independently solve problems and work things out for themselves. Older children recognise their names in print and link letter sounds to the letters they read. All children show confidence in physical skills relevant to their age. For example, younger children learn to use cutlery at mealtimes and develop confidence with walking. Older children make some attempts to hold a pen and to write their names.

Setting details

Unique reference number	117075
Local authority	Reading
Inspection number	10065530
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	13
Date of previous inspection	12 November 2015

The childminder registered in 1988 and lives in Tilehurst, Berkshire. She operates Monday to Thursday for most of the year. The childminder occasionally works with her daughter, who is her registered assistant.

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