

Childminder report

Inspection date	23 April 2019
Previous inspection date	10 May 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder provides an exceptionally warm and welcoming environment. Children settle quickly and form very close bonds with the childminder and one another.
- Parents report the childminder puts their children's well-being central to all her plans. Children love their time at her home and the many stimulating activities she provides.
- Children enjoy a wide variety of community trips which support their growing understanding of the world around them. For instance, they forage for blackberries and discuss bugs as they play in natural surroundings near the childminder's home.
- The childminder regularly extends her knowledge in a variety of ways. This knowledge supports her to meet her legal requirements. For example, she has used a training programme to improve her understanding of tracking and assessing children's development.
- The childminder has a wide range of resources which support children to learn about the similarities and differences between themselves and others. Children celebrate the languages they speak and their cultural differences. They teach each other key phrases from their languages as they play, and share food during special festival celebrations.
- The childminder plans activities to introduce children to early mathematics. However, at times, she does not maximise her use of language to develop their understanding of counting, size and shape during activities and daily routines.
- The childminder is a good communicator, but on occasions she misses opportunities to question children, introduce new vocabulary and teach to the highest levels.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's learning about early mathematics to enhance their understanding of counting, size and shapes
- build on the already good programme of professional development to take teaching skills to outstanding levels.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities indoors and outdoors, including snack time and lunchtime.
- The inspector and the childminder evaluated a planned activity together.
- The inspector assessed the childminder's understanding of how to keep children safe.
- The inspector read written statements from parents to obtain their views on the provision.
- The inspector looked at developmental records, a selection of policies and procedures, and the accident and medication records.

Inspector

Charlotte Foster

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder evaluates her service well and clearly identifies how she supports children in all areas of learning. She quickly identifies any gaps in children's development and plans activities to ensure they close quickly. The childminder completes a variety of online courses and reads professional publications. This helps her to develop knowledge about many indicators that children could be at risk of harm. The childminder demonstrates a solid understanding of her safeguarding procedures and knows who she would report any concerns to. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has worked hard to develop partnerships with other settings children attend. This creates a united approach to their learning and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children have lots of opportunities to develop their physical skills and coordination as they play. For example, they walk to activities, climb in playgrounds and express delight as they roll a ball down the slide. The childminder supports children with their early writing skills. For instance, younger children make marks with sticks in mud. Older children complete exercise books to help develop their understanding of forming letters. Children enjoy messy play opportunities, such as playing with a water table. This supports children to develop their coordination as they explore how different mechanisms move with the water. Children enjoy a regular trip to the local library rhyme-time session. This helps develop their creativity as they sing and develop a love for books and rhymes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children develop outstanding social skills and high levels of confidence. Younger children learn exceptionally well as they play alongside older children. The childminder uses every opportunity to develop children's independence skills. Very young children learn to feed themselves and have an excellent understanding about the routines of the day. Children learn that their views matter and make decisions about their play. Children enjoy activities which promote healthy lifestyles. For example, they discuss different foods the 'Hungry Caterpillar' eats and sample the nutritious fruits from the book. Older children are supported to benefit from a wider range of activities at the local school. These give them excellent opportunities to develop their creativity, fitness and team skills.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop an excellent awareness of safety as they learn to cross roads and how to stay safe in natural environments. Older children learn to write their names and identify the sounds letters make in partnership with their pre-school. Children behave exceptionally well and form very close bonds with their peers. All children make good progress in their learning and development. They acquire a wide variety of skills for their future learning and thoroughly enjoy their time with the childminder.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY344539
Local authority	Reading
Inspection number	10065545
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	13
Date of previous inspection	10 May 2016

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Caversham, Reading. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday.

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