

Childminder report

Inspection date	4 June 2019
Previous inspection date	20 October 2014

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 relish being outdoors. The childminder makes the most of the learning opportunities in her garden, so that children who prefer to play outdoors can access a good range of resources and play materials.
- The childminder is highly committed to her role and ongoing professional development. She has made excellent use of training opportunities, to give her a deeper understanding of how children learn, and gain ideas for activities to keep them motivated and engaged.
- Children explore the well-organised and homely environment with confidence and ease. They make independent choices in their play and show good levels of self-confidence and emotional well-being.
- Children develop skills that prepare them well for their future learning, including pre-school and school. For example, they listen to others, and share and take turns during play.
- On occasion, the childminder does not give children time to complete their activities before moving on to the next one. As a result, children do not always benefit from a full and positive learning experience.
- Although the childminder asks children questions, she does not always give them time to think and respond.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure children have enough time to complete activities and benefit fully from their play experiences
- allow children more time to think through and express their answers to questions.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas of the home used by children.
- The inspector viewed relevant documentation, including evidence of paediatric first-aid training and public liability insurance.
- The inspector asked the childminder questions throughout the inspection to establish her understanding of how to safeguard children, and how she monitors their learning and development.
- The inspector considered the comments from parents and took their views into account.
- The inspector observed the children and the childminder at play and discussed the activities with the childminder.

Inspector
Ingrid Howell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder regularly completes training to help to identify the signs that might indicate a child is at risk. She has a secure understanding of the procedures to follow if she has concerns about a child's welfare. Regular monitoring of children's learning helps the childminder to identify what they know and can do. This enables her to plan suitably challenging activities to support them to make further progress. She is committed to making ongoing improvements to her provision. She seeks the views of parents and children to help make positive changes. For example, she asks children what activities they enjoy doing, and provides these to meet their individual interests. The childminder has established highly effective partnership working with parents. She shares information with them and makes suggestions on how they can support learning further at home. This helps to ensure continuity in the care and learning between their home and the setting.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn through play. She provides a good range of opportunities to help them to expand their knowledge and understanding. For example, they complete activities and discuss the life cycle of a butterfly and a frog, to help them to develop a greater awareness of their wider world. Older children develop an awareness of the sounds letters represent and recognise words beginning with these sounds. All children show an eagerness to explore, investigate and recognise change. For example, children use coloured food dye to change the colour of water and know that if they combine yellow and blue, they will make green.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder nurtures children and meets their individual needs well. She has a good awareness of children's preferences and routines. Young children are happy and content and respond well to the childminder's positive approach in behaviour management. Clear boundaries and high expectations for behaviour encourage children to value and respect others. Children make positive friendships, happily include others in their play and have very good manners. Regular outings, such as to groups and parks, provide children with an abundance of opportunities for regular fresh air and exercise and enable them to explore their wider world. The childminder supports children's understanding of healthy lifestyles very well. For instance, she includes positive discussions at mealtimes, such as explaining to children that healthy foods give them lots of energy.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. They are independent and confident. They enthusiastically make choices in their learning and enjoy taking responsibility for tasks. For example, older children help younger children during their play to look for missing items. They are happy to take risks, engage in new experiences and learn through trial and error.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY260897
Local authority	Reading
Inspection number	10106110
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	5
Date of previous inspection	20 October 2014

The childminder registered in 2003. She lives in Whitley, on the outskirts of Reading, Berkshire. The childminder provides care between 7am and 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, for most of the year. The setting receives funding to provide free early education for children age three years.

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