

Childminder report

Inspection date	22 July 2019
Previous inspection date	15 June 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Outstanding	Outstanding	1
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

- The childminder and her assistant work together as a very enthusiastic and professional team. Children thrive in the exceptionally well-resourced setting and explore the environment with confidence and ease.
- Daily discussions enable the childminder and her assistant to reflect on their practice and consider ways to improve. They target their training needs to gain ideas for activities to ensure children are eager to learn. Subsequently, teaching is highly effective, and children flourish in response to the childminder's versatile and dynamic approach.
- The childminder has an excellent understanding of how children learn and develop. She uses this knowledge extremely well to provide highly purposeful play activities, which motivate and engage all children.
- The childminder actively helps children to gain an understanding of people, families and communities beyond their immediate experiences. Children eagerly talk about themselves and their families while other children listen with interest.
- Children behave exceptionally well. The childminder and her assistant are excellent role models. They offer children gentle guidance and praise. Children are kind, polite and treat others with high levels of respect.
- All children make rapid progress in preparation for their future learning, including pre-school and school. They demonstrate high levels of confidence in speaking and listening, such as during complex discussions with the childminder and other children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop children's awareness of the importance of making healthy food choices as part of their already excellent understanding of leading a healthy lifestyle.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder and the children indoors and in the garden.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and her assistant about their understanding of child protection and safeguarding.
- The inspector asked the childminder to evaluate the learning that was taking place.
- The inspector considered the comments from parents and took their views into account.
- The inspector discussed the self-evaluation process with the childminder.

Inspector
Ingrid Howell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder ensures she continually updates her knowledge of safeguarding matters. She has a comprehensive understanding of what to do if she has any concerns about a child's welfare. She is meticulous in ensuring she seeks the views of parents and children, to help evaluate her practice and drive for continual improvement. This is demonstrated when she asks children to feed back on the activities that they enjoy and those that they do not. She uses this information to adapt her approach, so that children remain inquisitive and motivated to learn. Highly effective monitoring of children's learning helps the childminder to quickly identify children who need additional support. This enables her to target their specific needs to help them to catch up. As a result, gaps in achievement between different groups of children are closing rapidly. She works extremely successfully with parents and goes above and beyond her role in supporting and guiding them. For instance, she has organised a nutritionist and a dental specialist to talk to parents about dental hygiene and nutrition, to help them to support children's overall health and well-being.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder is passionate and dedicated in her role. She regularly observes her assistant and supports him through ongoing supervision. This enables her to offer him suggestions on how to improve, so that the teaching is maintained to the highest levels. The childminder is highly responsive to children's interests and provides an environment that captivates their imagination. For example, children eagerly look at books and pictures, and search for insects in the childminder's garden. During discussions they confidently identify that some insects, such as butterflies and beetles, can fly as they have wings. However, although a grasshopper has very long legs and can jump very high, they cannot fly. Children as young as three talk about the life cycle of a butterfly. They eagerly explain that they start as a caterpillar and then 'burst' out of the cocoon when they become a butterfly.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder is very effective in supporting children's growing understanding of how to keep themselves safe and healthy. Children have an abundance of opportunities to be physically active and develop a superb knowledge about where their food comes from. For example, they visit an allotment weekly and plant, nurture and harvest vegetables. They make independent choices when choosing what they want to eat at snack time and cut up their fruits and sandwiches. Discussions on how to help children to talk about making healthy food choices, such as during mealtimes, are still ongoing.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make significant progress from their starting points. From a young age, they learn to recognise their names and older children can write these. They show extremely high levels of curiosity and ask an abundance of questions to find out new things. They show a deep understanding of number problems, such as if they have five and want to make six, how many more do they need to add.

Setting details

Unique reference number	105501
Local authority	Slough
Inspection number	10108391
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	12
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	15 June 2015

The childminder registered in 2001. She lives in Cippenham near Slough, Berkshire. The childminder has a level 3 childcare qualification. She receives funding to provide free early education to children aged three and four years. The childminder provides care for most of the year, from Monday to Thursday between 7.30am and 6pm and on Friday from 7.30am to 4.30pm. The childminder works with an assistant.

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