

Childminder report

Inspection date:

7 January 2020

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children revel in the childminder's undivided attention as she sits on the floor and genuinely enjoys joining in with their play. She expertly models patience and tolerance and guides children's development through activities that interest them. The childminder is passionate about providing an environment where children are happy and can learn in a way that suits their needs. She takes great care to plan her home environment so that children can play safely and experience a vast array of daily activities which cover the seven areas of learning.

The childminder has high expectations for all children, who develop into considerate and thoughtful playmates. She carefully plans and provides an extensive range of activities that captivate children's interests. For example, she shows them how to plant seeds to grow cress 'hair' in egg cartons, reminding children that the seeds need water and sunlight to grow successfully. Children pretend to brush the teeth of a crocodile puppet and the childminder talks to them about dental health.

Children develop high levels of independence and self-reliance as the childminder shows children how to manage tasks for themselves. For example, very young children proudly succeed in putting on their own coats and put their shoes on the correct feet. Children's behaviour is exemplary. Younger children are starting to share and take turns. Older children readily help to tidy up and take care of their resources.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder diligently updates her skills and knowledge on a regular weekly basis, using training webinars available through her membership of a professional organisation. This enables her to stay up to date with current developments in childcare and education. She firmly embeds this expertise in her daily practice and shares this knowledge with other childminders through her local network.
- The outstanding quality of all that the childminder does enhances children's learning opportunities exceptionally well. Children make excellent progress, given their starting points, and are extremely well prepared for the next stage in their learning.
- Children are independent and curious learners who feel safe, welcome and happy in the childminder's home. They become skilled negotiators and learn to respect one another's points of view as the childminder patiently and fairly addresses unwanted behaviour. She explains the consequences of unwanted actions to children, saying that 'If we shout at others, it makes them sad'.
- The childminder takes great care to develop really close relationships with

parents. Parents are very complimentary about the progress their children have made over time and feel confident they are leaving their child in a safe and nurturing place. The childminder is also extremely proactive in finding out what children are learning in pre-school and making sure that she complements this through the activities she offers. For example, she checks the pre-school's website for information about topics and learning. Children benefit from the resulting continuity of care and education they receive.

- Children develop high levels of self-confidence. They separate easily from parents and carers and quickly become engrossed in the activities of the day. Older children readily explain to the inspector what they are doing, such as setting up a pretend tea party. Babies are keen to involve the inspector in their play, passing bricks to her and taking them back again.
- Babies pull themselves up to standing against the childminder's knee and gesture that they want a cuddle. The childminder gently lifts them onto her knee and they smile and snuggle in, displaying clear affection. Babies take turns to babble and the childminder acknowledges their communication with excellent eye contact, a meaningful narrative and lots of praise.
- The childminder is very skilful in supporting children's vocabulary during different activities. For example, an older child finds a pair of binoculars in a toy crate. The childminder and child laugh together as they try to perfect the pronunciation of this difficult word. The childminder consistently encourages younger children to progress from using non-verbal gestures and single words to two- or three-word phrases. For example, they repeat 'no, thank you' and 'yes, I do' when deciding whether to play a particular game or not.
- The childminder is extremely keen to 'open up other worlds' and to develop children's thirst for learning. For example, the nearby castle provides the context for learning about history. Children play 'Pooh sticks' and watch the sheep grazing. The childminder takes children to walk alongside the canal and they talk to the people who live and work there. Children watch the tractors working in the field at the bottom of the childminder's garden and link this to the changing seasons.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder keeps children safe and always promotes their welfare. She knows how to record and report child protection concerns, and how to manage any allegations that may be made against her. She is very confident about protecting children from all forms of abuse, including online dangers and extremism. She regularly updates her training and checks relevant websites for any new information and contact numbers for reporting concerns. The childminder continually reviews her procedures and policies to ensure they support her in keeping children safe.

Setting details

Unique reference number	133540
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	10136267
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	21 September 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1996. She lives in Broughton, near Banbury, Oxfordshire. She offers care all day, Monday to Thursday, throughout the year, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Susan Marriott

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a learning walk with the childminder and an older child.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The childminder completed a joint observation with the inspector and they discussed the learning taking place.
- Required documentation was checked and other documents were sampled.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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