

Childminder report

Inspection date: 13 January 2020

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Met
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy and confident, and have lots of opportunities to choose from a wide range of appealing activities and resources. The childminder is especially passionate about outdoor activities and children have many opportunities to enjoy physical activities in the fresh air. They play in the garden and enjoy walking the childminder's dogs, going to parks and to Wendover Woods, whatever the weather.

Children develop good levels of independence as the childminder shows children how to manage tasks for themselves. For example, young children proudly succeed in putting on their own coats and put their boots on the correct feet. Children's behaviour is good. They are learning to remember to use their manners and they readily help to tidy up and take care of their resources. Children receive a lot of meaningful praise and encouragement which helps them to have a can-do attitude.

The childminder plans activities which she knows children will enjoy and will help them to move on in their development. For example, an activity to make fat balls for the garden birds involved a lot of counting and mathematical language, such as 'small', 'medium' and 'large'. The childminder shows children how to split the sunflower seeds open to reveal the 'heart' inside. She regularly asks parents and children for their views about what she offers at her setting. This helps her to identify realistic improvements.

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

- The childminder knows the children in her care very well and plans a wide range of interesting activities which arouse their curiosity. She builds on what children already know and provides suitable challenge to extend their learning further. For example, she provides weighing scales for children to weigh the seeds for bird fat balls and points out that the numbers change on the dial. This is helping children to learn how we use numbers in our everyday lives.
- Children form strong bonds with their childminder and enjoy her undivided attention as she sits and plays alongside them. She calmly guides children's development through activities that interest them. The childminder provides a safe and homely environment where children can experience a broad range of daily activities which cover the seven areas of learning.
- The childminder develops strong partnerships with parents to ensure she knows and meets the individual needs of children. Parents comment that the childminder is 'kind, calm and very flexible' and 'extremely accommodating' of their needs for her service. They report that she takes their children out on 'multiple excursions' and successfully 'nurtures children through difficult periods'.
- The childminder recognises that she is able to offer valuable experiences to children that are difficult for their working parents to fit in. She takes them to

gymnastics, swimming and ice-skating activities.

- Good-quality teaching extends children's learning opportunities well. Children make good progress, given their starting points, and are well prepared for the next stage in their learning. The childminder pays particular attention to developing children's vocabulary and asks questions to stimulate their thinking skills. Children show the inspector the photographs of their memories that they are going to make into a photograph board later in the day.
- The childminder updates her skills and knowledge by attending face-to-face training and completing online courses. This enables her to stay up to date with current developments in childcare and education, and she embeds these in her daily practice. She shares her considerable expertise with other childminding contacts.
- Children with special educational needs are well supported by the childminder. Parents of such children state that the childminder is 'really kind and caring', that she meets children's needs brilliantly and makes sure that these children are fully included in every activity.
- The childminder does not find out what children are learning in pre-school so that she is able to complement this learning in her home. Consequently, children do not benefit from the best possible continuity of care and education.
- The childminder is extremely keen to expose children to outdoor activities of every kind, to 'open up other worlds' for them and to develop children's thirst for learning. For example, she makes full use of the field at the back of her house for observing the natural world and linking 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 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.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- extend further the links with pre-schools that children attend, in order to communicate details about children's care and learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	107822
Local authority	Buckinghamshire
Inspection number	10132659
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	3 to 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	25 June 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2000 and lives in Stoke Mandeville, near Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire. She operates all year round from 6.30am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Susan Marriott

Inspection activities

- The childminder and the inspector held a number of discussions throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including safeguarding policies, training certificates and evidence of the suitability of adults living on the premises.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed a joint evaluation of an activity.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- During the inspection, the inspector spoke to and interacted with the children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback.

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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