

Childminder report

Inspection date:

24 February 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 flourish and become self-motivated learners in the care of the nurturing childminder and her assistant. Children have access to an extremely well-organised, stimulating and rich environment. They are settled and happy. The childminder and her assistant capture children's attention superbly with their warm and enthusiastic attitudes. As a result, children become deeply engaged in their learning and make excellent progress. They have high levels of confidence and demonstrate that they feel extremely safe and secure.

Children's behaviour is outstanding. The childminder and her assistant work together exceptionally well and are excellent role models. They have an excellent understanding of children's individual needs and have extremely high expectations of what they can achieve. They promote kindness and respect in all aspects of their routines, and truly value what children have to say. For instance, children wait patiently as they take turns when playing board games and are keen to point out whose turn is next. They eagerly discuss how many pieces they need to complete the game and develop exceptional levels of concentration.

The childminder and her assistant are ambitious and use every opportunity to reflect on their practice to maintain extremely high standards of care and learning for children. For instance, they meet weekly to evaluate the activities and learning experiences offered to children and to ensure that their curriculum is continually challenging children to achieve the best possible outcomes.

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

- The childminder and her assistant promote literacy skills extremely well. Children thoroughly enjoy sharing books and listening to favourite stories. The childminder and her assistant continually point out new vocabulary as they read, and asks meaningful questions to extend children's thinking. Children enthusiastically finish sentences, recognise familiar letters and identify rhyming words. For instance, they recognise that 'goose' and 'moose' rhyme and use new words with increasing confidence.
- The childminder has an excellent understanding of children's progress. She uses her robust observations and assessments to ensure that children develop the essential skills and knowledge for the next stages in their learning. The childminder develops strong partnerships with other settings that children attend to ensure exceptional continuity of care. For instance, she reviews children's developmental records from previous settings to help her build on their prior experiences. She shares developmental trackers and next steps with other settings that children attend to ensure that her planning consolidates and extends their learning.

- Children are keen problem-solvers and demonstrate a superb can-do attitude when faced with challenges. The childminder and her assistant use questioning very effectively to extend children's ideas and encourage them to develop their thinking skills. For instance, children delight in using tweezers to sort items into colours, and race to see who can complete tasks the fastest. They identify when they make mistakes and quickly correct them, demonstrating high levels of resilience.
- Robust settling-in systems ensure that children's individual needs are at the centre of the childminder's work from the outset. For instance, she offers parents home visits to help her understand children's individual needs and establish starting points.
- The childminder and her assistant are wholly committed to their ongoing professional training. The childminder conducts highly effective supervision sessions with her assistant. They use exhibitions, webinars and training courses to enhance their knowledge and extend the learning opportunities provided for children. For instance, since the last inspection, the assistant has attended forest school training to further enhance outdoor learning experiences for children.
- Parent partnerships are excellent. Parents are provided with a wealth of information about their children's care and development. Parents speak extremely highly of the childminder and her assistant. They praise the strong relationships their children form with them and the excellent communication that they receive. Parents compliment the superb support their children receive in their learning and describe the childminder and her assistant as 'incredibly organised, friendly and approachable'.
- Children are offered a wide variety of activities to develop their mathematical knowledge. The childminder and her assistant seamlessly weave mathematical concepts into all aspects of children's play, including size, shape and numbers. For instance, children enthusiastically seek out numbers in the local community and delight in taking photographs to share with their friends. They line up dough balls in size order and talk about which is 'biggest'.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder and her assistant have an excellent understanding of the safeguarding procedures. They have a thorough understanding of their roles and responsibilities to report any concerns about a child's safety or welfare. They consistently attend training and conduct detailed research to ensure that they have an extensive knowledge of indicators that a child is at risk of abuse, neglect or wider safeguarding issues, such as child exploitation. The childminder and her assistant are extremely vigilant and ensure that children are offered a safe and secure environment. For instance, they meet regularly to ensure that their records, policies and procedures are well maintained.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY372468
Local authority	Bracknell Forest
Inspection number	10108685
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 9
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	16
Date of previous inspection	9 December 2014

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Sandhurst, Berkshire. She operates Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, for 48 weeks of the year. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years. She holds an early years qualification at level 3. The childminder's husband works as her assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Nicola Edwards

Inspection activities

- The childminder gave the inspector a tour of her premises, and explained how the early years provision is organised.
- The inspector took account of parents' views through their written feedback.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, her assistant and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed children's play and the childminder and her assistant's interactions during activities.

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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