

Childminder report

Inspection date:

16 March 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 establish exceptional relationships with the childminder. The childminder provides an exceedingly warm, welcoming and homely environment. Children settle quickly and feel safe and secure. They are confident and independent learners and display high levels of emotional well-being during play. Parents comment how incredibly well their children settle in the childminder's care.

The devoted childminder has high expectations for every child. She works exceptionally closely with parents and other professionals involved in children's care. This helps them to support children and provide continuity in their learning. Parents comment extremely positively about the childminder and the significant progress that children have made since attending the setting.

Children's behaviour is exemplary. The childminder is committed to supporting children's emotional well-being and encourages them to have a positive sense of themselves. She is an extremely positive role model and has high expectations for all children's behaviour. She implements innovative behaviour management strategies. For example, children have access to a 'fidget box', containing items such as stress balls and other objects they can fidget with, to help relieve anxiety and tension. These highly effective strategies help children who struggle to regulate their behaviour to manage this more effectively.

The curriculum incorporates a forest school outdoor educational experience, where children visit woodland regularly. The childminder helps them to learn about the natural environment, use their initiative to solve problems, cooperate with others and learn how to handle risks.

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

- The childminder places a significant emphasis on promoting children's health and well-being. Children grow their own fruits and vegetables in the childminder's garden and the nominated 'chef of the week' helps the childminder to prepare healthy meals. Children follow very robust hygiene practices and understand the importance of regularly washing their hands. The childminder completes experiments with them, to help them to understand the importance of using soap to eliminate germs and prevent cross infection.
- The extremely dedicated childminder has an exceptional understanding of how children learn and develop. She uses her knowledge and experience to create a rich and inspiring environment where children thrive. Children are highly engaged in their play and learning. They have freedom to make their choices and to investigate the amazing outdoor space. Children are eager to learn and have lots of fun. The childminder knows them extremely well and takes into

consideration their interests when planning enjoyable activities.

- The childminder plans a rich and varied selection of well-organised activities across the curriculum, which deeply engage and focus children for extremely long periods. Children make exceptional progress from their starting points, particularly in speech and language development. The childminder provides an environment that is rich in language, with numerous opportunities for children to build on their wide vocabulary, especially through stories and rhymes. All children have regular visits to the library to borrow books to promote their love of reading. This includes dual language books, so that the childminder can read in English to children who speak English as an additional language, and parents can read the same story in their home language.
- The childminder uses children's interests, including a current fascination with transport, extremely effectively to help them learn. For example, in addition to measuring the height of the shadows their bodies create, older children use boats along a stream to measure speed and distance. Young children listen to stories and sing songs about buses. The childminder extends their understanding, including by taking them for a ride on a bus.
- The childminder places a sharp focus on developing children's independence. Even young children have opportunities to cut their own fruits at snack time and dress ready for outdoor play.
- Developing respect for others is fully embedded into the childminder's practice. Children learn about different cultures and are active members of the community. For example, they collect food and make food parcels for people who are less fortunate than themselves.
- The childminder is highly committed and passionate in maintaining her excellent practice. Since her last inspection, she has completed additional training to help her to support children's speech, including becoming a named 'ambassador' in supporting children's communication and language skills. Plans are in place for her to develop her skills even further, including training on how to use sign language.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a very broad knowledge of child protection issues, including a comprehensive understanding of the signs that could indicate a child is at risk of harm. She ensures she keeps up to date with all safeguarding training and has an excellent knowledge of what to do if she has any concerns, including the procedures to follow to protect children. She has comprehensive safeguarding procedures and policies in place and understands her role and responsibilities. For example, she teaches children how to keep themselves safe, such as how to exit safely in an emergency and the importance of not talking to people they do not know, including online.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY462349
Local authority	Reading
Inspection number	10108851
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 9
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	21 November 2013

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2013. She lives in Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire. The childminder provides care on weekdays between 7.30am and 6pm, for most of the year. The setting receives funding to provide free early education for children aged three years. The childminder holds a relevant childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Ingrid Howell

Inspection activities

- Ofsted is aware of the challenges that Covid-19 is currently posing to those we inspect. During this visit, the inspectors took into consideration the impact of any measures being taken to slow the spread of Coronavirus by the provider. This has included the effect these measures have had on the current attendance of the children and staffing arrangements.
- The inspector looked around the areas of the setting used by children.
- Discussions were held between the childminder and the inspector, to help establish the childminder's understanding of how to safeguard the children in her care.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by reading written comments.
- The inspector viewed relevant documentation, including suitability checks, evidence of paediatric first-aid training and public liability insurance.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.

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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