

Childminder report

Inspection date: 23 March 2023

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	Inadequate
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children clearly feel safe in the care of this childminder. They confidently separate from their parents at the door and happily explore their surroundings. Children are happy and behave well. They have built good relationships with each other. For example, children are seen greeting each other with enthusiasm as they arrive. Children enjoy the activities on offer. They laugh and chatter together as they sing and dance to music and play hopscotch. Children develop their independence. They help to tidy up and choose the wipeable books they would like to use. This helps to promote children's future skills in becoming self-confident.

Children become absorbed in their play, which supports their learning. For instance, children build on their concentration as they become focused on drawing and following patterns. This also helps to develop children's muscles in preparation for early writing. Children have many opportunities to extend their communication and language skills. The childminder talks to the children about what they are doing. This enables them to hear a range of words being spoken. The childminder understands when children may require additional support. She liaises effectively with parents to support all children's progress.

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

- The childminder is committed to improving her setting and has worked hard to address the last inspection's findings. She has attended a good range of training to help advance her knowledge and skills. This has contributed to the childminder gaining a better understanding of implementing a curriculum. In addition, she has worked with the local authority to improve her quality of teaching and to meet the requirements.
- The childminder understands how children learn, and she knows the children in her care well. She plans and provides a wide range of activities. These support the childminder's curriculum intentions. For instance, children enjoy matching card games, which help them to learn animal names, sounds and colours. However, at times, the childminder is not fully effective at tailoring her teaching precisely to children's age and stage of development to extend their knowledge and skills further.
- Children behave well and play happily alongside each other and with the childminder. Children receive consistent messages from the childminder. This helps them learn to manage their behaviour and develop their understanding of right from wrong. Children benefit from a good amount of praise and encouragement, which helps to develop their self-esteem and confidence securely.
- Children benefit from a welcoming and safe environment where they can relax and play. The childminder has a wide range of toys and resources. These cover

the curriculum learning intentions and offer interest to the children. However, the way resources are organised does not always enable children to easily choose the toys and activities they would like. This somewhat limits children's decisions in their play. Despite this, all children are developing a wide range of skills in readiness for the next stage in their education.

- The childminder supports children's play well. For example, she helps younger children to successfully negotiate puzzle parts and supports older children with number knowledge. The childminder communicates well with the children. She enthusiastically responds to the noises and single words younger children make and carefully repeats sentences back to older children to help with pronunciation.
- The childminder promotes a healthy lifestyle for children. She understands the importance of teaching them good hygiene routines. The childminder raises children's understanding about the importance of handwashing. She takes them out to local parks and green spaces for fresh air and exercise.
- Parents comment that their children are happy and love to come to the childminder. They credit her with the progress their children have made. Parents talk positively about the support they receive and the information the childminder shares with them. This supports continuity of care for children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of how to keep children safe. For example, she knows the importance of remaining with children when eating to maintain their safety. The childminder ensures her training for safeguarding and paediatric first aid is kept up to date and comprehends the importance of this. The childminder has a confident knowledge of signs and indicators that may mean a child is at risk of harm. Furthermore, she understands the referral systems to follow if she has concerns about a child. The childminder knows the procedures to follow if a child has an accident or injury, including keeping records and sharing the details with parents.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen the implementation of the curriculum and tailor teaching more precisely to children's age and stage of development to extend their knowledge and skills further
- review the organisation of resources to help all children easily choose what they would like to play with to enable them to build on their interests.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY345222
Local authority	West Berkshire
Inspection number	10260435
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	0 to 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	4 October 2022

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2007. She lives in Thatcham, West Berkshire. The childminder is open all year round, with the exception of family holidays and bank holidays. She works each weekday and offers some Saturday care by arrangement. The childminder receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Tracy Bartholomew

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder explained the curriculum during a learning walk with the inspector.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a joint observation of an activity together and discussed the quality of teaching and learning afterwards.
- Children spoke to the inspector about the activities they took part in.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.

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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Textphone: 0161 618 8524
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