

Childminder report

Inspection date: 19 April 2023

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
------------------------------	--------------------

The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children flourish in this exceptionally welcoming and well-organised environment. They are highly engrossed in their learning. They thrive new opportunities to learn and are eager to share this with the childminder and her assistants. For example, as children plant pansies in the garden, they confidently recall that plants need sun, water and soil to grow. Children are treated with high levels of kindness and respect. This helps children to feel completely secure, relaxed and happy. Children build close bonds with all adults and their peers. For example, during a game of 'what's in the box', older children model language and the names of the objects in the box. Younger children are excited to be involved and chant eagerly a familiar rhyme, as they enthusiastically anticipate the next interesting hidden object.

Children benefit from the childminder's wonderful intuitive teaching. She successfully ignites and inspires children's curiosity and enthusiasm to learn. For instance, children delight in observing and showing visitors their beans growing in a jar. The childminder expertly supports children's understanding of 'germination'. Children confidently share their ideas and accurately name parts of the plant, such as roots, bulb and leaves. Children behave extremely well. They play harmoniously together, are kind and help each other. They demonstrate high levels of social skills, confidence and independence. Children benefit from an ambitious curriculum and have excellent opportunities to enjoy learning in the outdoor environment. All children rapidly gain confidence and the skills they need for the next stage of their education.

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

- The dedicated and passionate childminder provides a highly effective curriculum. She knows the children extremely well and demonstrates genuine enthusiasm for her work. She thoroughly enjoys her time with the children.
- The quality of teaching is excellent. The childminder is constantly aware of how best to extend, consolidate or support children's learning. For example, as children prepare the table for snack, they skilfully problem solve and successfully identify how many more plates are required, without having to count.
- The childminder uses highly effective strategies to support children's communication and language. For example, she skilfully supports children of all ages to develop a love of reading and singing. Children learn new vocabulary and are given time to think and use language throughout the day. Older and more able children relish in thinking critically, writing meaningful words and can successfully identify letters and their sounds.
- Children have many opportunities to develop their physical skills. For instance, children develop muscle control as they dig for dinosaur eggs in the sand, they pour and fill water using various containers and move their bodies in different

ways to negotiate obstacles. Children are adept in controlling their bodies and develop the strength in their hands and arms that will prepare them for writing when the time comes.

- The childminder effectively uses additional funding to broaden children's experiences. Children benefit from a wide range of rich opportunities that promote their understanding of the world, people and communities beyond their own. For example, children experience regular outings to the village, cultural events, dance workshops or trips to museums and farms. Children learn about the differences between cultures and people, they are nurtured to be good citizens, future adults of the community, and to treat others with the utmost respect.
- The childminder and her assistants plan superb opportunities for children to develop the necessary skills in preparation for school and their future learning. As a result, all children make excellent progress. Opportunities for all children to develop their independence skills are fantastic. Children are extremely resilient and enjoy taking on new opportunities to try new things.
- Parent partnerships are very effective. Parents comment on the significant progress that their children have made. They speak extremely well of the childminder and her team. They comment on how they are 'blown away by the attention to detail gone into the wonderful space'. They are astounded by the resources, the learning opportunities, and say that the setting is 'so beautiful, calm, and organic for the children'. Another parent comments their 'child's development has accelerated, especially their language, and the team go above and beyond every day to provide a warm, loving, safe and fun home from home for the children they care for'.
- The ambitious childminder reflects on her own practice consistently and demonstrates outstanding dedication. She is keen to maintain and further develop her extremely high standards of practice. She is passionate about doing all she can for the children in her care. She effectively focuses on giving children rich experiences to build on the skills for their future. She keeps her practice up to date, attends training and completes her own research to deepen her knowledge.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an excellent understanding of her role to safeguard children. The childminder and her assistants are extremely vigilant and proactive in ensuring that children are protected from harm. They confidently talk about a range of safeguarding matters, such as the 'Prevent' duty and county lines, and are confident of the action to take should they be concerned about a child's welfare. The childminder operates from her home and a purpose-built lodge in her garden. She uses her strong early years knowledge to resource the space well. The setting is safe and secure, and children's safety and well-being is given the highest priority. Children are encouraged to help to tidy away toys to minimise hazards to their health and safety.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2618816
Local authority	Reading
Inspection number	10276043
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 10
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	17
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2021. She lives in Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire and is open Monday to Thursday from 7.30am to 6pm, all year round. The childminder works with two assistants and she holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Anneliese Fox-Jones

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the setting and has taken this into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder took the inspector on a tour of all areas of the premises to understand how the early years provision and the curriculum are organised.
- A joint observation was carried out by the inspector and the childminder. The inspector discussed learning activities and assessed the quality and impact of teaching on the children's learning. She spoke with the childminder, assistants and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of all those working with children and those living in the household. She also sampled documentation, including evidence of paediatric first-aid training.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of the parents' views through their written comments.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's self-evaluation processes and plans for continual improvement.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2023