

Childminder report

Inspection date: 2 October 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

The childminder has made significant improvements to her practice and provision since her last inspection. This has helped her to ensure that children are safe, happy and learning. Children show that they enjoy the time they spend with the childminder and her assistants. Together, the childminder and her assistants have developed warm bonds with the children, and all have positive relationships with each other. Children are learning good manners and to be respectful towards each other. For example, as they play and wash the dolls, they take turns and wait patiently for their friends to finish with the water and towel.

Children have many opportunities to extend their communication and language skills. The childminder and her assistant engage purposefully with the children to support their speaking skills. They skilfully link songs to activities to help children make connections in play, which supports children's understanding and thinking skills. For instance, when children have finished hunting for body parts in shredded paper, they sing 'head, shoulders, knees and toes'. This helps children to consolidate the learning while making the connections of learning the different body part names to the actions of the song.

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

- Since the last inspection, the childminder and her assistants have worked effectively together and with local authority advisers to rapidly improve their practice. This has helped them to reflect on the range of activities offered to the children and address the actions raised at her last inspection.
- The childminder and her assistants know the children in their care well. They undertake planning meetings together to ensure that they tailor learning to meet the needs of the children. Together, they know what the children need to learn next and offer activities that incorporate this to help children make good progress.
- The childminder and her assistant plan and provide a good range of activities for the children, which covers the curriculum well. For example, children take turns and problem-solve as they engage in activities about emotions. Children benefit from a welcoming and safe environment where they can relax and play. The childminder has a wide range of toys and resources that reflect the interests of the children. However, at times, resources are not organised effectively to enable children to easily choose the toys and activities they would like.
- Children behave well, listen to instructions and are keen to help. For instance, they help to tidy away at the end of activities and after mealtimes. The childminder and her assistant are good at ensuring that children receive consistent messages about their behaviour. This helps them to consider the feelings of others and to develop their understanding of right and wrong.

Children benefit from a good amount of praise and encouragement, which helps them to feel valued and develops their self-esteem and confidence securely.

- The childminder and her assistants provide a language-rich environment that supports the children's communication skills well. They both enthusiastically respond to the children as they speak, which encourages conversation. The childminder and her assistant model language well and introduce new words through effective storytelling. This helps to develop children's speaking and listening skills from an early age.
- Overall, the childminder and her assistants support children's health and well-being. They ensure that the home is clean and teach children basic hygiene routines, such as washing their hands prior to eating. Children have many opportunities to develop their physical skills, inside and outside of the home. The childminder provides nutritious snacks and children enjoy packed lunches provided by their parents. Although children are encouraged to eat their savoury food before their sweet, they are not fully supported to understand how healthy eating contributes to their overall health and fitness.
- The childminder has good relationships with parents. She keeps them well informed about their children's achievements and next steps, through regular discussions. This helps parents to support their children's learning at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder and her assistants have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities to safeguard children. They are aware of the signs and indicators of abuse and comprehend the procedures to follow should they have concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder and her assistants deploy themselves well to meet the needs of the children. The childminder completes suitable risk assessments on equipment, outings and her home to keep children safe. Appropriate documentation, such as Disclosure and Barring Service checks, attendance register and policies, are in place and all contribute to children's safety.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- review the organisation of resources to help all children easily choose what they would like to use, to enable them to build on their interests
- extend ways to help children understand the importance of living a healthy lifestyle.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY447497
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	10293020
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 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	16
Date of previous inspection	24 April 2023

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2012. She lives in Shrivenham, Oxfordshire, near Swindon, Wiltshire. She offers her service all year round, Monday to Thursday, from 7.30am to 5.30pm, except for family holidays. The childminder works with two assistants, both of whom hold relevant early years qualifications.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Tracy Bartholomew

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic with the childminder 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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