

Childminder report

Inspection date: 27 January 2022

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 are exceptionally well cared for in this highly experienced childminder's home. They make excellent progress in their learning through accessing a highly ambitious curriculum. Children experience the awe and wonder of the world around them. The childminder provides exciting experiences to enhance their understanding of the way things work and the daily routines we follow.

Children are mesmerised as they have the real-life experience of watching a skip being loaded onto a truck. The childminder expertly explains how chains and mechanisms work. She shares in their delight to see the large wheels lift off the ground. Children learn the mathematical concepts of weight and size. They are developing an accurate understanding of numbers, such as when they count the wheels and clips on the truck. The childminder makes the utmost use of every opportunity to deliver high-quality teaching. Children gain the essential skills and knowledge they need to make excellent progress.

Children's behaviour is exemplary. The very young children are exceptionally polite and compassionate. They demonstrate an overwhelmingly impressive level of kindness towards their younger friends. Toddlers offer toys to babies and include them as they build constructions together. Children build strong and secure attachments with the childminder. They are extremely happy and flourish through the loving and sensitive bonds they form with the childminder.

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

- The childminder ignites children's interest as they learn about minibeasts. She immerses them in imaginary play as they hunt around for a hidden ladybird with their magnifying glasses. The childminder teaches the children detailed information about the different types of insects. She captivates the children with a story about bugs and encourages them to match props to pictures in the books. Younger children learn to use new vocabulary such as 'scuttle' and 'centipede'. They delight in wriggling, flapping and slithering, creating and copying the different movements minibeasts might make.
- Children demonstrate remarkable levels of concentration as they focus on mastering new skills. The childminder expertly sequences children's learning to increasingly present further challenge. They develop their fine motor skills and hand-to-eye coordination as they use pincers to grasp and move small objects on a tray. Younger toddlers practise carefully slotting small items into containers, as the childminder carefully supports toddlers to use a magnetic pen to move balls around a maze. Children begin to develop the strength in their hands that will prepare them for writing, when the time comes.
- The childminder meets children's individual care needs extremely sensitively. As

children get tired, they snuggle on her lap to look at photos of themselves and their friends. They talk about their emotions, pointing at their happy smiles. They learn to recognise and discuss their similarities and differences. Children bring books for the childminder to read and enjoy during periods of quiet time and rest in the cosy, comfy and homely environment.

- The childminder is impressive in the way she supports children to make healthy choices. She provides children with nutritious meals. She engages young children in cooking activities and food preparation to further encourage them to try new things and explore different tastes and textures. The childminder expertly weaves the promotion of healthy choices into the stories and resources children access.
- The childminder supports young children to bridge any gaps in learning that may have developed during the COVID-19 pandemic. She recognises the important need for children to socialise with others and to understand about the diversity of life in modern Britain. She ensures children gain the experience of interacting in larger groups by attending local rhyme sessions and playgroups. They go on regular trips to spend time with others, exploring at the park and woods. Parents comment on the rapid improvements they have seen in children that were previously shy or nervous and are impressed with the new-found confidence they have.
- The childminder is committed to providing an outstanding quality of education for children. She works closely with parents to encourage children's learning at home. The childminder is highly skilled in assessing children's development and progress to identify any emerging needs. She ensures swift referrals are made to seek any additional support children may require. The childminder undertakes extensive training and research to enhance her knowledge and skills. The impact of her commitment to development is evident in the excellent progress children consistently make.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is extremely committed to ensuring children are safeguarded from harm. She has a superb understanding of local safeguarding arrangements. She knows the correct procedures to follow if she had concerns about the welfare of a child or any allegations were to be made against a member of her household. The childminder ensures she keeps herself up to date with a wide range of safeguarding training. She supports parents to keep children safe online. The childminder is diligent in ensuring her home and any outings are risk assessed. Children are encouraged to manage their own risk as they learn to use climbing equipment safely.

Setting details

Unique reference number	148246
Local authority	Wokingham
Inspection number	10136282
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 2
Total number of places	3
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	11 January 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1997 and lives in Earley, near Reading. She works from Monday to Thursday, 8am to 4.30pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Alice M Roberts

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 childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the childminder.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure it is safe and suitable.

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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