

Childminder report

Inspection date: 8 January 2025

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

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder gets to know children and their families well. Children show that they are happy and secure, and they build strong bonds with the childminder. The childminder provides a relaxed and nurturing environment. She is responsive to young children's needs and provides reassuring cuddles when needed. Babies are eager to participate in a range of activities, and they make many choices in their play. The childminder interacts well to help them to remain engaged for longer, before they move onto the next resources that catch their attention. Overall, the childminder makes learning fun. For example, during a singing activity, the childminder introduces props, musical instruments and repeats simple words and phrases to challenge children's physical and early language skills. This helps support their explorations and learning.

The childminder sets clear boundaries and guidelines that support young children to know what is expected of them. Children cooperate and follow instructions well. Overall, the childminder plans activities that stimulate children's interests. For example, babies investigate a variety of materials, textures and sounds using their senses. The childminder supports babies to develop their physical skills. She supports babies to practise standing and places toys around the room to encourage them to crawl and to take steps towards them. Children make good progress. They develop positive attitudes towards their learning as they demonstrate early confidence, independence and motivation.

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

- The childminder has failed to notify Ofsted of changes to persons living in the household and significant events. Furthermore, although the childminder demonstrates a suitable understanding of safeguarding issues, her safeguarding policy is not thorough enough to include all relevant information. This is a breach of requirements. That said, there is no impact on the outcomes for children.
- The childminder has created a clean, safe and inviting environment in her home. She works in partnership with parents to provide healthy meals and drinks. The childminder keeps children safe when they are eating and sleeping. She carries out thorough risk assessments to ensure that children are vigilantly supervised. She ensures that there is enough safe space for young children who are learning to walk to move safely around the furniture.
- Overall, the childminder interacts well with children, helping to make learning fun. She takes account of children's learning needs and their current interests. The childminder uses information she has obtained from parents along with her own observations to promote children's curiosity as she encourages them to explore. However, she does not target and plan precisely for raising the children's next steps in their learning and make the most of opportunities to help

them achieve these.

- The childminder has good expectations of children's behaviour. From an early age, she teaches children to be respectful, to share and take turns. Children listen to the childminder's instructions and follow them well. Children learn about the rules of conversation. For example, the childminder commentates everything that she is doing and waits for babies to finish their babbles before responding with words and warm interactions. Furthermore, this supports children's early language and communication skills.
- The childminder supports older children to manage their feelings in a variety of ways. For example, the childminder helps children to show empathy to others, to talk about emotions and begin to understand the difference between happy and sad.
- Parents are very happy with the care the childminder provides. They comment on her 'variety of toys, flexibility and patience'. The childminder carries out daily diaries and shares this information with parents. This helps parents to provide support to their children at home. Parents appreciate the regular communication they receive.
- The childminder completes mandatory training, such as paediatric first aid. She is reflective and regularly meets with other childminders to exchange ideas. However, she has not considered planning specific training opportunities for her own professional development and to help further develop her knowledge and teaching skills.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
implement a safeguarding policy and procedure that is in line with local safeguarding partnership procedures and includes an accurate explanation of what to do when there is a safeguarding concern, or in the event of an allegation being made and the use of mobile phones or devices in the setting.	30/01/2025

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

- strengthen the curriculum planning to identify more specific and targeted next steps in children's learning and make the most of opportunities to help them achieve these
- extend professional development activities and focus more precisely on developing knowledge and teaching skills to extend children's learning even further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2691549
Local authority	Reading
Inspection number	10376535
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 4
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	2
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2022. She lives in the Tilehurst area of Reading, Berkshire. The childminder operates Monday to Thursday, from 8am to 5pm, all year round.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Anneliese Fox-Jones

Inspection activities

- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment process, following information we received about the provider.
- The childminder took the inspector on a tour of all areas of the premises to understand how the early years provision and the curriculum is organised.
- A joint focus activity 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 and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of all those living in the household. She also sampled documentation, including evidence of paediatric first-aid training.
- The inspector took account of the parents' views through their written comments.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's self-evaluation processes and plans for 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.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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