

Childminder report

Inspection date: 21 October 2024

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

Children are very happy and settled in the childminder's welcoming, warm and caring setting. They feel at ease and form positive relationships with the childminder and any assistants helping to care for them. Children confidently approach adults to express their feelings and needs or for a cuddle and reassurance when required. The childminder uses effective strategies to promote friendships, care and cooperation between children. For example, older children are encouraged to help younger children.

The childminder plans a clear curriculum that focuses on the skills and knowledge children need to gain. This helps children to become ready for their next stage of learning. Overall, the childminder implements her learning intentions securely and organises her provision successfully. The childminder offers a broad range of interesting activities and resources. Children engage in their play and learning enthusiastically. They show curiosity when they explore and investigate activities.

The childminder has a strong focus on supporting children's communication and language development. Adults introduce different words and their meaning during children's play and activities. For example, children gained understanding of words such as 'telescope' while reading a book and 'potion' during a sensory activity. The childminder monitors children's progress closely to help identify and close any gaps in their development quickly. This helps her to put specific strategies in place when needed to help all children progress to their full potential.

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

- The childminder knows each individual child's learning needs securely. This helps her to plan for children's next steps in learning to support their progress. Children benefit from consistent positive interactions with adults, which promotes their learning well.
- Children follow the daily routines easily. For example, some wash their hands with little or no prompting before eating. Young children gain self-help skills, including finding their water bottle when thirsty. Although the childminder has a clear curriculum, occasionally, she does not ensure her learning intentions are implemented as consistently as possible. For instance, at times, adults promote children's independence well and at other times they do things for children that they may be capable of doing themselves.
- The childminder offers interesting activities that engage children effectively. For example, children enjoyed adding different materials and using tools to create 'potions'. This promoted their imagination, physical skills and language development. Adults working with children have a secure understanding of the learning intentions for activities. The childminder puts out plenty of resources for

children to make choices from. However, she does not always fully consider how this supports children to use some resources effectively.

- The childminder provides effective support for children's communication and language skills. She skilfully sings songs and reads stories that engage children in listening and participating. For instance, adults speak clearly and use eye contact, facial expressions, actions and signing alongside words. This helps children to build their vocabulary and develop their speech and understanding securely.
- The childminder promotes children's good health and emotional well-being successfully. She provides healthy home-prepared snacks and cooked meals. This helps children learn to make healthy choices and to widen their food tastes. Children benefit from social and relaxed mealtimes together. Young children's sleep routines are agreed with parents to support these times consistently.
- The childminder supports children to behave with respect and kindness toward others. Adults guide children's behaviour sensitively and offer appropriate explanations and redirection when needed. They promote children's confidence effectively with positive praise and encouragement.
- The childminder understands her role in supporting any assistants working with her. She ensures they understand their responsibilities. The childminder has identified ways to provide ongoing support and professional development to those working with her, to help build on their skills and practice.
- The childminder has completed training and implemented the new knowledge in her practice. For example, she has used the information gained to provide activities and teaching to support children's mathematical development. This helps the childminder to continually develop the quality of her provision over time.
- Parents' feedback is highly complimentary about the childminder. They highlight that the childminder provides a 'home-from-home' setting and 'excellent communication and support.' They praise the activities and experiences their children enjoy. The childminder's effective partnerships working with parents and other settings children attend promote continuity in meeting children's needs.

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

- implement the learning intentions as consistently as possible to promote children's learning, development and progress even further

- enhance the learning environment to promote children's learning needs even more successfully.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2756938
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	10349634
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 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	12
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in November 2023 and lives in Wantage, Oxfordshire. She provides childminding all day, Monday to Thursday, throughout the year, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She holds a level 3 childcare qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sheena Bankier

Inspection activities

- The childminder spoke to the inspector about children's learning and development and how she supports their progress.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- Children chatted to the inspector and interacted with her during the inspection.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how she ensures they are safe and suitable.
- The childminder and inspector held some discussions during the inspection.
- A sample of documentation was reviewed as part of the inspection process.
- Parents provided written feedback and the inspector took account of their views.

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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