

Childminder report

Inspection date: 7 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

Children are clearly happy and thoroughly enjoy spending time at this nurturing and welcoming provision. Children demonstrate that they feel safe as they play and explore in the childminder's home. The childminder has high expectations of children's abilities, and children benefit from a learning environment that supports their concentration and enjoyment. Children are focused and engaged when they play. They demonstrate perseverance as they draw pictures of themselves in foam and use scissors safely when cutting wool for their hair. Children enjoy the activities, which purposefully cover the seven areas of learning. This, combined with the good teaching, helps them to advance and refine the skills they need for later learning.

Children of all ages participate in singing, action songs and dancing. Children show good listening skills as they sit attentively while familiar stories are read. They happily respond to questions and are able to demonstrate their understanding of what they know through communication. For example, when looking at books about their bodies, children excitedly recall where organs and bones are in the pictures and correctly make connections to these on themselves. Children behave well. They play happily alongside, and with, their peers. They clearly know the routines well, and demonstrate this when they respond to the tidy-up song effectively.

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

- The childminder and any assistants they work with know the children well. They have a clear understanding of what they want the children to learn, and adapt activities to offer an inclusive curriculum to support children's learning. The childminder understands what each child's interest is, and skilfully implements these into activities to create a meaningful curriculum. For example, children who are very interested in dinosaurs have these toys included in the garden to encourage them to play in the sensory area. This helps to ensure that children get the best experiences while in the provision.
- The childminder provides an environment that is rich in spoken language. For example, she spends quality time talking to the children about what they are doing and asking them questions to encourage them to talk about their play. Children enjoy the time they spend in the garden. They show good imagination as they make 'drinks' and 'food' for each other to share. Children show good dexterity as they use brooms for creative play and negotiate spaces with the pushchairs for their dolls. Children have opportunities to climb and use large equipment as they explore the wider community.
- Children are given a good amount of praise for their achievements and efforts. Children enjoy mealtimes together. Their independence is well supported by the

childminder and any assistants they work with. However, at times, their deployment and practice is not consistently maintained to support children's good health. In addition, sometimes, younger children sit and wait for their meals for some time without being involved in purposeful activity. Nevertheless, children play and explore in a well-maintained home.

- The childminder works closely with parents to build effective partnerships. She ensures that she collects detailed information from parents when children first start and liaises with parents consistently to ensure that this information is up to date. Parents receive regular updates about their child's learning through verbal and written feedback. This supports a consistent approach for children.
- Parental feedback is very positive and gives high praise to the childminder. They comment that the childminder provides a positive 'home-from-home environment', shares 'regular information' and gives children a 'good amount of education support'. This is acknowledged by parents as being 'pitched just right' to help them see that their child is 'making good progress'.
- The childminder keeps her knowledge and training up to date, and has recently completed training to advance her professional development, to improve outcomes for the children.

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:

- review and improve the organisation of mealtimes, to consistently promote children's good health and well-being.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2762047
Local authority	West Berkshire
Inspection number	10349676
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 3
Total number of places	9
Number of children on roll	14
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2020 and lives in Newbury, Berkshire. She operates her childminding provision all year round from 8am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She works with two assistants.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Tracy Bartholomew

Inspection activities

- 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.
- The inspector discussed learning activities and assessed the quality and impact of teaching on the children's learning.
- The inspector engaged with children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of parents' views through their written comments.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of all those living in the household and evidence of the childminder's paediatric first-aid training.

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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