

Childminder Report

Inspection date

8 February 2017

Previous inspection date

7 July 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder has maintained the good standards achieved at her previous inspection. For example, she has developed extremely strong partnerships with other early years settings that older children also attend. These partnerships are beneficial to children's learning and progress.
- The childminder concentrates very well on developing children's early mathematical and social skills. She has high expectations for children's conduct. Children have very good relationships with the childminder and each other. Children learn to respect others.
- The childminder observes and assesses children carefully. She knows their individual abilities and provides them with activities that capture their interests. The childminder extends children's play skilfully, which helps children concentrate for long periods. Children make good progress.
- The childminder works closely with parents. She is well aware of children's changing development. Children trust her to meet their care needs, which the childminder does very well indeed.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not precisely aim her professional development at deciding how she can best raise the quality of her teaching to the highest levels.
- The childminder misses opportunities to extend and develop the older children's skills in understanding letter sounds.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make even more precise use of evaluation to target professional development on areas where children may need more support, and to help raise the quality of teaching and learning to the highest level
- make the most of opportunities to help the oldest children understand letter sounds to extend their early reading skills in readiness for school.

Inspection activities

- The inspector checked the childminder's understanding of safeguarding matters and behaviour management, and checked documentation relating to safeguarding, including the written risk assessment, the childminder's training certificates and children's records.
- The inspector read feedback from parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector had discussions with the childminder about how she evaluates her service and plans improvements.
- The inspector observed the childminder's teaching and its impact on the children's learning.
- The inspector and the childminder observed children during an activity and completed a follow-up discussion about children's learning, progress and behaviour.

Inspector

Rosemary Davies

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder concentrates well on keeping her knowledge of safeguarding up to date. For example, she has a clear understanding of the potential risks to children's welfare in modern society. Risk assessment is thorough. Children are supervised closely, including toddlers. The childminder assesses and tracks children's progress well to check that it is at least good. She is careful not to discriminate between children. For example, she includes toddlers in any planned activities that are suitable for them and expects boys and girls to use the same resources.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Collaborative information sharing with parents and other settings is highly effective. It helps the childminder to provide children with good levels of challenge and to help any child who is at risk of falling behind. For example, practitioners take a joint approach to seeking outside professional support for the oldest children's speech development. The childminder pays good attention to helping the youngest children find their voices, such as by describing their new experiences clearly. Parents are well informed of their children's progress. Parents comment positively on how much their children enjoy their activities. Children delight in learning through exploration. For example, they make 'gloop' and eagerly discuss how water changes cornflour and the patterns that they create.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder has effective settling-in procedures. For instance, she talks with parents, follows the children's interests and provides favourite toys from the start, which helps children to feel secure quickly. Children are happy and safe. The childminder encourages children's independence well. For example, the oldest children help themselves from good-quality resources, and the childminder provides toddlers with plenty of choice. She makes sure that toddlers have plenty of space to practise walking. Children know what is expected of them, such as sitting at the dining table for mealtimes. The oldest children are kind towards the youngest ones, following the childminder's good example. Children learn how to keep themselves safe, such as cutting up fruit into small pieces to prevent choking. Children enjoy good opportunities for daily exercise and being outdoors.

Outcomes for children are good

Overall, children are well prepared for the next stage of learning. They gain personal independence well. The oldest children manage their toileting needs confidently. Children behave well, and learn to share and take turns. They are keen to be helpful. They listen to the childminder attentively and respond readily to her requests, for example, to tidy away their toys. Children are observant and notice changes in the weather. They count, recognise simple shapes, enjoy trying to write, and eagerly name their favourite stories.

Setting details

Unique reference number	505897
Local authority	Swindon
Inspection number	1070408
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	7 July 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1997. She lives in the Liden area of Swindon, Wiltshire. She operates on weekdays throughout the year, apart from bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a relevant early years qualification at level 3. The childminder is able to take funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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