

Childminder report

Inspection date: 8 May 2025

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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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

All children highly benefit from a curriculum that is designed to help them make outstanding progress in their learning. Children are extremely happy and content in the childminder's care. They enjoy a wealth of challenging activities of activities that support their skills and enable them to become confident and fluent communicators. The childminder is highly effective in supporting children to have outstanding opportunities to develop their early reading and writing skills. This demonstrates excellent support for their future learning and helps prepare them for their eventual move on to school. For example, children as young as two are able to recognise letters used in their name and understand many letters and the sounds that they make.

Children of all ages are friendly and extremely polite. Their behaviour is impeccable as they show respect for one another. All children have excellent opportunities to challenge their physical skills. For instance, they enjoy high-energy activities such as dancing and running races and use complex equipment competently, such as stilts. The childminder is passionate on supporting children's creative thinking skills. She enthusiastically engages with children to enable them to communicate effectively and asks questions to extend their knowledge, fluency in language and speaking. This provides exceptional opportunities for children in the preparation for literacy.

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

- Children of all ages thrive in the care of this knowledgeable and caring childminder. They are progressing exceptionally well in their education and are developing a wide range of skills to help them to be ready for their future learning. Children are confident, motivated and engaged in their learning, they problem solve and test out their knowledge and skills exceptionally well. For example, children are confident to keep trying in what they have set out to do and master new skills, as they articulate fine physical skills, using pegs to pick up lids on water.
- The childminder has extremely high expectations of what children can achieve. She tracks children's progress and knows them all very well. This helps her to set individual targeted next steps within activities. For instance, younger children who are very confident in their numbers are challenged in subtraction and multiplication to advance their awareness in changing quantities, to further develop their problem-solving skills.
- Children flourish in this highly stimulating home-from-home environment. All children are eager to play, learn and participate in the exciting activities on offer. The childminder enthusiastically extends children's interests and recaps on topics and activities previously learnt to embedded knowledge further. For example,

when children are looking at the insects and species in the garden, they refer and compare these to picture cards. Children delight in hunting for spiders and slugs in the garden.

- Children are extremely confident to share their ideas and make up their own play, they have fun together and share impeccably well, including the younger children. Children are seen to listen and include each other's ideas as they play in harmony together. They cooperate effortlessly together and show great consideration and respect for. This was especially evident as they play in the sand constructing different buildings.
- The childminder teaches children about healthy lifestyles extremely well. She maintains high standards of hygiene and children enjoy healthy snacks and regular exercise. Children's independence is excellently supported. All children are given time to independently see to their own care needs; they skilfully cut their own fruits and pour their own drinks at snack time. Children show they feel extremely safe in the setting and are highly confident to explore and experiment as they play.
- The childminder establishes extremely positive partnerships with parents. She provides ongoing communication to them about their child's care, learning and development. For instance, she sends regular newsletters, shares progress and discusses the children's next steps in learning with them. Parents' feedback is extremely positive about the childminder's care of their children. They praise her for her knowledge and guidance which they recognise helps their children to succeed. The childminder understands the utmost importance of working in partnership with other early years professionals.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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

Setting details

Unique reference number	510220
Local authority	West Berkshire
Inspection number	10380901
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	6
Date of previous inspection	27 June 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1986 and lives in Calcot, Reading, Berkshire. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for a number of children who attend her setting. She works with two assistants as required. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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.
- Children spoke to the inspector about the activities they took part in.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.

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

T: 0300 123 1231
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