

Childminder Report

Inspection date

13 March 2017

Previous inspection date

13 January 2015

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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder supports children's emotional well-being highly effectively. She uses, for example, excellent praise and encouragement, family photographs and individual settling-in routines to establish incredibly secure relationships with all children.
- The childminder constantly reviews her practice and finds ways to further improve her already good-quality childcare. She makes good use of training, for example, to deepen her understanding of how to support children with special educational needs.
- Teaching is good. The childminder is experienced and uses her observations and understanding of how children learn and develop to accurately assess their progress. She plans purposeful and challenging experiences that meet their individual needs.
- Children have fun with the childminder. Her careful planning and playful approach makes children very eager to join in. They are curious, inquisitive learners and make good progress. They are confident and highly independent.
- The childminder works in close partnership with parents and others. She keeps parents very well informed of their children's progress. She offers useful advice and resources, such as story sacks, for them to support their children's learning at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children are not able to use a rich variety of resources outside throughout the year. This sometimes limits the way they would like to play, especially those who learn better outside.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop children's outdoor play experiences, providing a rich variety of resources that they can move and use in different ways, particularly for those children who prefer to learn outdoors.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder and the children during activities inside and in the garden, and assessed the impact of teaching on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the home and garden used for childminding.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's practice with her, including how she keeps children safe, supports and monitors their learning, and works with parents and others.
- The inspector sampled documents, including evidence of the suitability of adults living in the home, children's records, policies and the childminder's self-evaluation record.
- The inspector took account of parents' views from discussions with a parent on the day and written comments from others.

Inspector

Rachel Edwards

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is clear about her role and responsibility to keep children safe. She has secure systems to help ensure all adults living in the household are suitable. The childminder regularly refreshes her child protection training to keep up to date with current guidance. She knows what to do should she have any concerns for a child's welfare. She monitors children's development accurately and adapts her practice well to meet their differing needs and stages of development. She promptly identifies children at risk of falling behind in their development and works closely with parents and other professionals to ensure children receive the support they need.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides a good range of activities that build on children's knowledge and skills. She follows their individual interests, joining in with their play to extend their learning. For example, children have noticed spring flowers and so the childminder has provided many linked activities to support all areas of their learning. Children count beans and fill containers with compost, already talking excitedly of 'giants' as they make links with a familiar story. A visit to the garden centre deepens their knowledge. They enjoy painting and mixing colours to try and make purple like the crocuses. The childminder uses resources imaginatively. For example, she hides books and objects relating to healthy eating in a 'feely' box to capture children's interest in this topic. The childminder uses everyday routines to help children learn in practical ways. For example, children count the stairs and slices of fruit at snack time.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder very successfully helps children understand the importance of being kind, helpful and considerate. Her firm, gentle and consistent approach means children understand what is expected of them and they behave extremely well. She recognises children's achievements with generous praise and encouragement, which builds their self-esteem and confidence. They are keen to have a go. The childminder frequently takes children on a wide range of outings to extend their learning. They meet other people and develop an excellent understanding of the world around them. The childminder supports healthy lifestyles extremely well. Children benefit from healthy meals and daily exercise.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy learning and confidently explore their surroundings. They concentrate well and persevere with difficult tasks, such as finishing a puzzle. Children love sharing books and join in enthusiastically with stories. They develop good physical skills and confidently use brushes and other tools in their play, preparing them well for writing. Children quickly learn the skills needed for their move on to pre-school or school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY220911
Local authority	Reading
Inspection number	1085566
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	13 January 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2001. She lives in Caversham Park Village, near Reading. She cares for children every weekday between 7.30am and 6 pm throughout the year and may be able to provide additional hours by arrangement. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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