

Childminder report

Inspection date: 31 July 2025

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy and motivated to explore the home of the experienced childminder. They look to her with fondness and communicate confidently about their wants and needs. The childminder offers warmth and reassurance. She provides gentle reminders about care and consideration for others. This fosters a sense of security and helps children to learn about kindness and respect. Children celebrate each other's accomplishments and are beginning to understand the feelings of others. The childminder has a clear understanding of how to keep children safe and meet their care needs effectively. For example, she teaches children about road safety as they go on regular community walks.

The childminder designs a curriculum that is shaped by her knowledge of each child's development, interests and home life. She places strong emphasis on emotional development and independence, particularly for the youngest children. Activities are planned around familiar routines and enhancements, such as visits to the park, nature walks and learning about different cultures and customs. This helps to broaden children's understanding of the world. The childminder adapts experiences to match children's stage of learning, such as offering children opportunities to develop their mark making skills. Very young children attempt to make recognisable marks and older children skilfully write the initials of their names on their artwork. The childminder supports children to be confident and independent and develop key skills and experiences children need to learn that will help prepare them for their eventual move to school.

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

- The childminder completes the statutory progress checks and regularly observes the children's learning and shares these insights with parents. She closely monitors the children using her assessments. This enables her to meet their needs and recognise potential special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), allowing her to access specialist support quickly. The childminder uses what she knows about each child's development to plan next steps in learning.
- On the whole, support for children's communication and language is good. The childminder places a high priority on developing all children's communication skills, including those who have SEND. She poses interesting and challenging questions to children as they play. However, at these times, children's communication and language is not best extended to enable them to have the time they need to think and respond to the questions she asks.
- The childminder guides children through activities, which supports their physical development well. Children have opportunities to ride around the garden and climb up the slide. The childminder provides healthy and balanced snacks and ensures that food provided by parents is healthy and nutritious to promote

children's well-being. However, the childminder has fully not considered how to teach them about the benefits of making healthy choices and the affects this can have on their overall health.

- Children develop their hand-to-eye coordination. They copy the childminder as she models transferring water from one container to another. When older children do this accurately, the childminder introduces smaller containers and syringes for children to use. This encourages children to concentrate and challenges their abilities. Children are supported to have a positive attitude to solving problems in their play. For instance, the childminder encourages children to keep trying when they try to stick cereal hoops to collage. This results in children persevering and achieving their goal.
- The childminder places focus on her own professional development. She attends regular training and receives support from other professionals. This helps her to raise her knowledge and confidence over time. The childminder is committed to developing her practice. She regularly reviews the quality of the service that she provides. For example, she has developed a calm area for children to spend time in if they become upset or frustrated. The childminder includes the views of parents and children in the process to help continually enhance the care and learning that she provides.
- The committed childminder values the positive relationships that she creates with families. She welcomes their feedback and contributions that they share along their children's learning journey. Parents speak highly of the childminder and the positive learning environment that she has created. They are grateful for the positive level of communication that childminder provides to enable them to complement learning at home. Parents feel secure in the knowledge that their children are safe and well cared for.

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:

- enhance support for children to develop their communication and thinking skills further
- promote children's understanding of healthy eating to improve their knowledge and develop healthy habits.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY364470
Local authority	Reading
Inspection number	10399559
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	2 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	5 December 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Tilehurst, Berkshire. She provides care for children Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, all year round. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. childminder provides funded early years education for all eligible children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Chris Lamey

Inspection activities

- The childminder explained the intentions of her provision and explained her curriculum.
- Parents' written views were taken into consideration.
- The inspector held a leadership discussion with the childminder.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents and children's records.
- The inspector observed the quality of the education being provided and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.

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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