

Childminder report

Inspection date	19 March 2019
Previous inspection date	18 July 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
Effectiveness of 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 and her assistants know the children well. They plan activities and experiences that build on children's interests and help them make good progress with their learning.
- Children feel safe and show good levels of confidence as they explore a well-resourced environment.
- Assistants are closely supervised by the childminder and they work well as a team. The childminder identifies her own and her assistants' training needs and has implemented a programme of professional development, to help develop their teaching skills further.
- Children show consideration to one another throughout activities. For example, older children help younger children to put their shoes on and play with role-play resources.
- Parents report they receive regular communication about their children's progress. For example, they read development records and enjoy seeing photos about the fun their children have at the setting.
- Children are supported to develop independence skills, such as dressing for outdoor play and using cutlery at mealtimes. They develop good hygiene skills and learn to wash their hands before meals and after petting the family dog.
- At times the childminder and assistants do not extend children's learning about early mathematics, such as using the language of size, shape and counting.
- The childminder does not provide a wide range of activities to help older children learn about and use technology.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's learning about early mathematics, to develop their understanding of counting, shape and size further
- improve opportunities for older children to explore different types of technology, to help develop their skills and understanding further about the modern world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities indoors and outdoors, including the lunchtime routine.
- The inspector and the childminder evaluated a planned activity together.
- The inspector assessed the childminder's and assistant's understanding of how to keep children safe.
- The inspector reviewed communication from parents and considered their views.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including the childminder's training records, local authority action plan minutes and children's progress records.

Inspector

Charlotte Foster

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder has worked closely with her local authority adviser to address previous actions and improve systems to assess children's progress. She has used a variety of online resources and training to develop the quality of teaching. For example, the childminder and assistants researched information about healthy lifestyles and children enjoyed a recent topic and learned about dental care. Parents report this has had a positive impact on their children's oral care routines at home. The childminder recently updated her knowledge about the many ways children could be at risk of harm. She updated her safeguarding policy and shared her knowledge with her assistants. All assistants demonstrate a good understanding of local reporting procedures. They check the environment to help make this safe for children to play and learn in. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is committed to improving her service and evaluates this effectively. For example, she has started to complete observations of her assistants' practice and give feedback to them to develop their teaching.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children have good opportunities to learn about the natural world. For instance, the childminder supports children to look after their allotment and grow a variety of healthy foods. Children have opportunities to get fresh air and exercise every day. For example, they climb play equipment at the park and in the garden, developing their balance and coordination skills. Babies are provided with a good selection of toys to explore, which encourage them to learn to crawl and explore texture. Children delight as they listen to a 'shark' song, expressing themselves through dance and learning new vocabulary while they sing. The childminder and assistants support children to develop a variety of skills for future learning. For example, older children enjoy creating topic books and developing their early writing skills during focused activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder and assistants know their children well. They clearly identify what children can do when they start and explain the progress they have made. Children readily seek affection from the childminder and assistants and are given clear boundaries for good behaviour. Children have many opportunities to learn about the similarities and differences between themselves and others. For example, they learn about different religious festivals and play with resources that reflect people of different ages and cultures. Children learn about those less fortunate than themselves, such as when they created harvest boxes for people in need.

Outcomes for children are good

Older children learn to write their names and develop good listening skills. Younger children develop the muscles in their hands they will need for future writing. For example, they play with dough and learn to use scissors. Babies enjoy nursery rhymes and they giggle and babble in response to the childminder and her assistants. This helps to develop their communication effectively. Children have a lot of fun at the setting and make good progress with their learning and development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY430995
Local authority	West Berkshire
Inspection number	10085104
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 10
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	26
Date of previous inspection	18 July 2018

The childminder registered in 2011. She lives in Theale, Berkshire. The childminder employs one full-time and two part-time assistants. She receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. She holds a recognised early years qualification at level 2.

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