

Childminder report

Inspection date: 12 January 2022

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

Children are extremely happy and well settled in this remarkably kind and caring childminder's home. Children feel confident and secure in a welcoming and nurturing environment with a childminder that cares deeply about meeting their needs and providing the highest standard of care.

Young children cuddle on the childminder's lap as they explore a winter themed sensory tray. They have fun rolling, throwing and catching pretend snowballs with the childminder. They giggle and jump with joy as they take turns to find the balls and return them to each other. Children take pleasure in listening to new words, such as 'squeeze' and 'squash', as they explore the different textures in the tray.

Children's behaviour is exceptional. Children learn the clear setting rules from a very young age. They learn to say please and thank you and to be gentle and kind to each other. Children demonstrate they care about their friends. They collect their own water bottles from a drinks tray that is set out at their level. Children learn which water bottle belongs to them and kindly and considerately hand out drinks to each other. They show great pride in helping each other and clap their hands in delight when they work together to tidy the drinks away.

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

- The childminder encourages a love of reading. She gives children time and space to explore books independently and share familiar stories together. Young toddlers sit together on a comfy sofa and take turns to turn the pages of books. They point to familiar images and smile at each other as they show each other the animals under the flaps of a favourite book.
- The childminder expertly plans a curriculum that focuses on the essential skills and knowledge children need to progress in their learning. She encourages the young children to practise and attempt to say new words. The childminder skilfully interprets the sounds and gestures children make. Children point and name the clothes on a snowman picture. The childminder builds on the words they say by explaining that hats and scarves keep us warm in cold weather. She is highly skilled in her teaching and uses opportunities to further challenge and extend young children's understanding.
- The childminder plans meaningful outings and purposeful experiences for children. Visits to local woodlands and wildlife parks offer children rich and varied experiences to understand the world around them. The childminder makes excellent use of local provisions, such as using a toy library, attending local toddler groups and spending time with another well-established childminder to provide children with opportunities to socialise in larger groups.
- The childminder takes pride in introducing environmentally friendly practices.

She provides reusable cloth wipes and nappies for babies and toddlers that all families can choose to use in her setting. The childminder provides all children with healthy home-cooked lunches, ensuring all children receive a nutritious and well balanced meal. She provides parents with information to encourage healthy food choices at home and to promote children's oral health.

- The childminder puts an exceptional level of focus on ensuring she undertakes meaningful and purposeful training that has an impact on continuously improving her provision. The childminder's recent training around supporting young children enables her to find exciting new ways to promote mark making. For example, children have opportunities to lay down and make large scale drawings, which they find fun and exciting.
- The childminder's exceptional partnership with parents is clear through the overwhelming praise they have for her. The childminder goes above and beyond to ensure she keeps parents up to date with their children's daily progress and learning. The childminder knows the children she cares for extremely well and effectively encourages parents to share information about their child's development at home. During periods of closure, children take home seeds and scavenger hunt packs to enjoy outdoors with their families. Communication between parents and the childminder is excellent and encourages parents to support children's learning at home and give children the best possible outcomes.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder's knowledge and understanding of how to keep children safe is excellent. She has extensive knowledge of the procedures to follow to protect children from harm. The childminder has a clear understanding of the steps she must take if she has any safeguarding concerns. She keeps her relevant training up to date. The childminder understands how to support parents to keep children safe from harm online. The childminder carefully risk assesses her premises to ensure she has a safe environment. She teaches children the skills they need to keep themselves safe, such as learning to understand road safety from a young age.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY434084
Local authority	Wokingham
Inspection number	10136692
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	0 to 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	7 December 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011. She lives in Earley, Berkshire. The childminder operates all year round from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder is registered to provide free early education funding for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Alice M Roberts

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The childminder discussed her curriculum with the inspector and the impact it had on children's learning.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure it is safe and suitable.
- The inspector and the childminder carried out a joint observation of a group activity.

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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