

Childminder report

Inspection date:

5 May 2022

**The quality and
standards of early
years provision**

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children show that they are exceptionally happy and content and that they thoroughly enjoy the activities planned for them. They thrive in the welcoming and friendly environment that is provided by the childminder before and after school. For example, children are extremely keen to take part in a baking activity, where they ice and decorate biscuits made the previous day. Children build on what they learn at school as they mix icing to the right consistency, and independently solve the problem if the icing is too thick or too thin. They are very creative as they decorate their biscuits that are cut out with the letters of their name.

Children demonstrate they feel safe and secure in the childminder's care. They confidently recall the different things they have been doing with her recently. All children, including the older children attending the setting have a good relationship and warm bond with the childminder. Children behave exceptionally well at all times. They have a very clear awareness of the childminder's expectations. For instance, they use polite language, such as 'please' and 'thank you' when speaking together. Additionally, they listen to one another, share resources happily and understand the routines of the day.

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

- The childminder is an excellent role model to children. She provides them with a range of activities that fully complement the learning they receive elsewhere. The childminder is proactive in how she maintains effective partnerships with both parents and school staff to embed a secure three-way communication. This includes passing on important messages between home and school. Robust policies, procedures and risk assessments are adhered to well and fully support children's health, safety and well-being.
- Parents are extremely positive about the care that their children receive. They state that the childminder is very fair, and that children are safe, well-nourished and entertained. They add that the childminder's welcoming provision offers structured activities every day and that she is highly recommended.
- Children are very confident to talk about what they like doing when at the childminders. They speak about craft and baking activities that they enjoy. They add that they like playing board games together and discuss which ones they like best. Children show that they are highly motivated to take part in their favourite pastimes, including role play. For example, children are very eager to join older children as they act out playing 'school'. They listen intently as older children read to them and practise learning the alphabet song and writing with pens. Children are confident and cooperative and demonstrate a positive attitude in all they do.

- The childminder is supportive of children's health and well-being. She ensures children receive plenty of opportunities to be outdoors and to be physically active. She provides children with healthy snacks and meals. She adheres to children's dietary wishes, preferences and allergies. The childminder helps children to gain an understanding of when they might be at risk. For example, one day a week, children are allowed to bring electronic devices from home, to use for a short time. Proactively, the childminder helps children and parents understand social media and online safety during these activities.
- Children are independent in their hygiene practices and understand for instance, the importance of effective handwashing and when this is necessary. They are kind and respectful during these transitions and for example, wait patiently as their friends use the bathroom before them.
- The childminder is caring and supportive to the children she cares for. She is very efficient in the ways that she encourages children to have an interesting and exciting start and end to their day. She effectively promotes children's personal, social and emotional development. Children are able to form and keep friendships, hold thoughtful conversations and laugh together.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a secure understanding of all aspects of safeguarding. She knows how to protect the children she cares for. For example, she demonstrates a confident knowledge of the procedure to follow if an allegation was made against her. The childminder has a clear policy about the use of mobile phones. The childminder understands what to do if a child made a disclosure to her. The childminder regularly reviews and evaluates her practice to ensure her skills and knowledge of requirements are up to date.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY447429
Local authority	West Berkshire
Inspection number	10228677
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	5 to 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	10 October 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2012. She lives in Newbury, Berkshire. She offers care before and after the school day, Monday to Friday, term-time only. The childminder is a qualified teacher.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Aileen Finan

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 this into account in her evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder to assess her knowledge and understanding of safeguarding matters.
- Relevant documentation was sampled during the inspection. This included reading feedback from parents.
- Observations were made on how the childminder interacted with children. The inspector spoke with the childminder to find out how she works in partnership with schools and parents.
- The inspector spoke with children present to ascertain what it is like to attend this setting.

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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