

Childminder report

Inspection date: 15 November 2023

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 enjoy the time they spend with the childminder and flourish in his care. The praise and ongoing encouragement they receive from the childminder and his co-childminder boosts their confidence and self-esteem well. Younger children explore with confidence and seek out the childminder when they need support and comfort.

Children behave very well and demonstrate a positive attitude to their learning. The childminder has high expectations of children's behaviour and conduct. He teaches them effectively about boundaries of the setting, such as being kind to others and treating others with respect. Children happily follow instructions and play harmoniously alongside others.

All children make good progress from their starting points. They are keen to engage with the childminder and take part in activities. They successfully develop the skills they need for the future. They confidently complete tasks independently, have good social skills and demonstrate confidence in speaking and listening. They happily share their thoughts and ideas during interesting conversations with the childminder. For example, children eagerly talk about people who are familiar to them.

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

- The childminder and his co-childminder provide a warm, welcoming, and inclusive environment for all children and their families. Prior to children starting, he takes time to find out about their care routines at home and follows these closely. This helps to support children's health and emotional well-being. Children demonstrate that they feel happy, safe, and secure in the care of the kind and attentive childminder.
- The childminder and his co-childminder work together as an enthusiastic and committed team. They have a good understanding of the individual interests and characteristics of the children in their care. They use this information to provide a curriculum that allows children to develop well across all areas.
- Children benefit from many opportunities to support their communication and language skills. Throughout activities, the childminder provides a commentary, models good conversational skills, and introduces new vocabulary. Children are vocal and repeat familiar words and phrases in response to the childminder's warm interactions.
- Children of all ages have access to a good range of books. The childminder interacts well with them and promotes their early love of reading. For example, he encourages children to repeat words in response to animals they see in books and make the corresponding animal sounds.

- The childminder places a strong focus on children's physical well-being. He ensures that children have a wide range of experiences to encourage them to be physically active. For example, they play outdoors and visit local parks. Children benefit from healthy meals and snacks and follow good hygiene practice, such as washing their hands regularly.
- The childminder incorporates children's interests into activities. For example, he uses their interest in dinosaurs to teach them to identify and name different colours. Children have fun as they use dinosaur-shaped sponges and paint to make patterns. However, he does not adapt his teaching to ensure that activities are suitably challenging for older children. This means that some children's knowledge and skills are not as fully extended as they could be.
- The childminder regularly takes the children to community groups. This helps to ensure children have regular opportunities to mix with other children and develop their confidence in larger groups. The childminder uses these experiences to teach children about the wider world and the community in which they live.
- Partnerships with parents are highly effective. Parents are complimentary about the setting and the childminder. The childminder shares photos and observations of children's progress with parents and values their contributions towards children's learning. Parents comment on the level of care and the variety of activities, especially the many opportunities for children to play outdoors.
- The childminder has completed all mandatory training to ensure he has a good knowledge and understanding of how to promote children's safety and welfare. However, he does not focus on developing his professional development to help to recognise how to fully challenge and extend children's learning as they play.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a clear understanding of his role in protecting children who may be at risk of harm. He is alert to possible indicators of when a child may need help. He knows the relevant agencies to contact for guidance. The childminder attends child protection training and is aware of the correct procedure to follow should there be an allegation. The premises are secure, and the childminder carries out daily checks of the indoor and outdoor environments to ensure they remain safe for children to use.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- focus more consistently on planning teaching opportunities more precisely to extend and challenge children's learning within their play
- build on professional development opportunities to further enhance the already

good practice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY449123
Local authority	Wokingham
Inspection number	10305346
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	1 to 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	19 February 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2012. He co-childminds with his wife from their home in Lower Earley, in Reading, Berkshire. He provides care Monday to Thursday, between 7.30am and 5.30pm, for most of the year. The childminder holds a relevant Level 3 childcare qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Ingrid Howell

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder 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 her evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector carried out a learning walk to discuss the childminder's curriculum.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and jointly assessed the impact this has on children's learning and personal development with the childminder.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including paediatric first-aid certificate and public liability insurance.

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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