

Childminder Report

Inspection date

2 February 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the 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 plans a wide range of activities that children enjoy, which effectively meets their needs. Children have lots of good-quality attention from the childminder and her assistant. All children make good progress from their starting points.
- Partnerships with parents are effective. Parents comment on how well their children quickly settle and are happy, including how they benefit from speaking daily with the childminder, particularly to support learning at home.
- The childminder successfully helps children to learn about the important people in their own lives. She helps them appreciate and learn how to treat other people with respect, and promotes their good manners.
- The childminder has a clear view of her strengths and areas for development. For example, she uses improvement plans to help her work towards specific goals. She takes account of the views of others, including her assistant, parents and children, to help her focus on improving her provision.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always use all opportunities to encourage children to explore, including learning how things operate and managing risks during play.
- At times, opportunities for children to explore their ideas further and take a lead, for example during group activities, are not always available to enhance their self-confidence.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give children more opportunities to explore the learning environment, particularly so they learn how things work and build an awareness of how to manage risks safely
- increase opportunities for children to express their ideas fully and lead their own learning, particularly in group situations.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and learning during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's developmental records, the setting's key policies and procedures, and documents relating to the self-evaluation processes, including professional development records.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder and discussed the findings.
- The inspector took account of parents' views, such as through telephone conversations, questionnaires and letters.

Inspector

Carolyn Hasler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder is ambitious about her setting. She keeps herself and her assistant well informed about current changes to practice and has a positive attitude towards driving improvement. For example, she has good links with her local authority, reads relevant literature and seeks additional training. She shares her knowledge and good practice with her assistant to support her role. The childminder's teaching has particularly benefited from professional development opportunities, such as additional training to help her support children's communication skills. The childminder monitors children's learning effectively. She welcomes assessment information from other professionals, which helps her to plan accurately for children's needs. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder observes and listens to children carefully and is alert to their concerns. She uses her policies and procedures to underpin her good practice, including keeping children safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder successfully helps children learn and plans activities based on their interests. For example, children make a family tree related to their own families, and the childminder encourages them to talk about family members, including special occasions and activities. She skilfully extends children's discussions, such as through asking skilful questions, which help them identify relationships between different people. The childminder encourages children to use equipment correctly, such as scissors, to strengthen their hand-muscle control. Overall, children benefit from carefully planned activities, which help develop key skills and extend their understanding across all areas.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder shows affection for children and successfully builds their confidence. She effectively helps them learn key skills in taking care of their own needs. For example, they put on their own coats and shoes for outside play. Children know how to behave; they show consideration towards each other during play. The childminder successfully works with parents to ensure children learn about healthy eating. For example, she provides balanced meals and snack choices to help children form good eating habits. She plans regular daily exercise, such as walking to and from school, and uses the garden. The environment is safe and children are able to choose what they want to play with.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are enthusiastic and focus well on activities. They make good progress from their starting points and gain the skills they need in preparation for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY459290
Local authority	Windsor & Maidenhead
Inspection number	940286
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	4
Number of children on roll	2
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder lives in Maidenhead, Berkshire. She operates her service for five days a week, all year round. The childminder, on occasion, works with an assistant. The childminder holds a recognised childcare qualification at level 3.

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