

Childminder report

Inspection date	9 August 2018
Previous inspection date	4 April 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

The provision is good

- The childminder is a good role model and has a patient and calm approach. She helps children to behave well and play cooperatively.
- Teaching is consistent and children make good progress overall. The childminder provides clear explanations and she challenges children's thinking to help develop their learning effectively for most of the time.
- The childminder uses her assessment and planning processes well. She helps children progress steadily from when they start, to achieve good outcomes in preparation for school.
- The childminder forms secure relationships with children and their parents. Children are settled and happy, and they achieve good levels of independence within their play. Parents are very complimentary about the childminder's practice and they value her care of their children.
- The childminder has a good understanding of safeguarding procedures to help keep children safe.
- The childminder reflects on her practice routinely to identify and address areas for further development to improve outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, the childminder overlooks opportunities to reinforce children's mathematical and literacy development as they choose play activities for themselves.
- The childminder does not develop effective partnerships with all other settings that children attend or to which they will transfer. This leads to some inconsistencies in sharing information for some children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to develop and practise their mathematical and literacy skills as they play, to further support their readiness for their next steps in learning and for school
- develop partnerships with other settings that children attend and schools to which they will transfer, to promote consistency and to share relevant information for all children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector and the childminder observed and discussed activities together.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and evidence of the childminder's training records.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through discussions on the day, in person and by phone, and through written comments.

Inspector

Gill Little

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good understanding of how to identify and respond to any concerns about children's welfare, and she keeps her knowledge up to date. She helps children to learn how to keep themselves safe, such as encouraging them to assess risks and to respond accordingly. The childminder evaluates and monitors her setting, taking careful account of children's progress to respond effectively to their individual needs. For example, she considers carefully how children use resources, and she introduces new and more challenging equipment to help them make further progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows children well. She understands their individual learning styles and personalities, and she uses this information effectively to guide their learning. For example, she sets challenges for older children who are preparing to move on to school. She encourages their problem-solving skills and they increase their physical dexterity through activities that excite them. The childminder communicates well with children to support their language skills and learning successfully. She demonstrates this as she takes time to explain how things work to younger children, to support their understanding of the world around them. The childminder works well with parents to share information about children's progress and to guide learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder helps children to develop good levels of confidence, and to be resourceful and independent. She guides them gently, makes suggestions and encourages them to think about others to help them play well together and learn to compromise. The childminder supports children to have a positive approach to people who are different from themselves and she teaches them to be respectful of the opinions of others. She helps them to develop a good understanding of safety and how to respond to any problems, such as discussing burn injuries as children pretend to have a barbecue and campfire. The childminder encourages a positive approach to healthy lifestyles and enables children to exercise routinely and enjoy nutritious food choices.

Outcomes for children are good

Children show high levels of concentration and interest in their activities. They are confident to extend their play independently, such as selecting resources to build a campsite. Children develop creative imaginations and respond well to challenges, for example, as they build a campfire from construction bricks and use tongs with one hand to cook pretend food. They use language effectively to share their ideas and understanding. Children are able to think for themselves, use their initiative and work well together, which prepares them successfully for their future lives. They develop some important skills in preparation for school, such as recognising letters and numbers in the local environment.

Setting details

Unique reference number	133681
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	10060566
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	4 April 2014

The childminder registered in 1992. She lives in Wantage, Oxfordshire. The childminder receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. She offers care from Monday afternoon to Friday throughout the year, including out-of-school care.

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