

Childminder Report



Inspection date 18 August 2015
Previous inspection date 9 April 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children of all ages and abilities make excellent progress because the well-qualified childminder has a good understanding of how to successfully promote their learning and development. Highly imaginative resources and well-planned, interesting activities are adapted to ensure all children make excellent progress in all areas of learning.
- Children's behaviour and attitudes to learning are outstanding. They delight in having freedom to choose where, how and what they learn. Children become deeply engaged in their learning and concentrate for long periods of time. They are extremely well prepared for their next stage of learning.
- Children feel highly valued and respected, as the childminder is astute at tuning in to their individual needs and skilled at meeting these.
- The childminder maintains an extremely comprehensive set of policies and procedures and uses these to underpin her daily practice. Her knowledge of safeguarding and keeping children safe is exemplary. This is reflected in every aspect of her practice.
- Parents are given many opportunities to become involved at every stage of the child's learning journey and their input is highly valued. As a result, children's learning is supported exceptionally well and they are extremely well prepared for the next stage in their learning or for school.
- Rigorous and effective systems for self-evaluation are in place, and these are supported by clear improvement and development plans. The childminder demonstrates an exceptional ethos for high-quality childcare and attends regular training courses to extend her knowledge base further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- nurture children's interest in exploring natural materials to enhance their understanding of the world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder's practice with the children.
- The inspector discussed the children's development and progress.
- The inspector discussed the process of self-evaluation and how the childminder obtains the views of all the users of her provision.
- The inspector examined a selection of documentation.

Inspector

Melissa Cox

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

The childminder has an excellent understanding of the unique characters of the children and their individual learning styles. Teaching is outstanding as the childminder is skilled in supporting children to problem solve, persevere and direct their own learning. A particular strength is her ability to adapt activities to meet the needs of all children, irrespective of age or stage of development, taking part. A significant emphasis is placed on children's development of communication and language. They hear a wide range of vocabulary as the childminder introduces many new words in their play. She skilfully poses open ended questions to encourage children to talk about the experiences. The childminder uses very regular, comprehensive and sharply focused observations and assessments to identify children's individual learning needs and plan for these. Children are provided with an excellent range of activities to practise their early writing skills and mathematical learning.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Children show high levels of confidence and independence. The calm, consistent manner of the childminder, together with her appropriate praise, supports all children to effectively manage their own feelings and behaviour. Children make healthy choices about what they eat and drink. The childminder supports their learning exceptionally well with regard to healthy food. They look after the vegetables they plant in the garden and then eat what they grow. The childminder plans a vibrant environment that plays a key role in supporting and extending children's development and learning. However, there are fewer natural resources to support children's ongoing discovery of nature and the wider world. The outdoor area provides an extensive variety of play experiences that incorporate all areas of learning.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

The childminder has an exceptional understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. High priority is given to keeping children safe. The monitoring and tracking of children's progress is very thorough, extremely effective and regular. Comprehensive record charts show children's progress and enables the childminder to identify next steps in their learning and to plan appropriate, engaging and challenging activities. Any gaps in learning are swiftly identified and steps are taken to close the gaps. The childminder's commitment to her own professional development is excellent and she regularly attends courses. As a result, she has implemented highly effective strategies to involve parents in their children's learning. For example, she shares sacks with story props in with them and simple workbooks for the children to build on their learning at home. As a result, children's learning outcomes are exceptional well promoted, with children making very rapid progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY400867
Local authority	West Berkshire (Newbury)
Inspection number	838457
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	9 April 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2009. She lives in Mortimer, near Reading, Berkshire. She operates Monday to Friday, for most of the year.

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