

Childminder report

Inspection date: 11 July 2022

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education	Outstanding
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Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
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Personal development	Outstanding
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Leadership and management	Outstanding
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children flourish in the care of this highly experienced childminder. Her warm and positive approach helps children feel completely secure and confident, where she works alongside her co-childminder and assistant. Children clearly demonstrate their enjoyment as they engage intently in the activities provided and behave exceptionally well.

All children spend a great deal of time outside, where they gain a deep understanding of the natural world and a great curiosity and enthusiasm to explore. For example, they watch wildlife, sow seeds, and tend to fruit and vegetables in the garden. Children are very eager learners and quickly gain the skills they need to succeed in their future learning.

Resources are open-ended, meaning children become creative and share their ideas. For example, during the inspection children imaginatively built a bridge using two large tyres and an oversized wooden ruler. They calculated how far apart they needed to put the tyres to make it safe to balance and walk across. Children demonstrate a love for learning. There is excellent support for children's communication and language skills. The childminder introduces new vocabulary as she reads to children and skilfully incorporates aspects of children's own experiences. For example, children recall the word 'enormous' and relate this to their planting of beans. They expertly link this to the traditional tale of 'Jack and the Bean Stalk'.

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

- The highly skilled and experienced childminder is confident, dedicated and passionate about her work. She attends purposeful training opportunities that have significant impact on sustaining excellent outcomes for children. For example, she adopts strategies to support children's understanding of the language of emotions. These were developed from attending a national training event and are embedded into daily discussions to support children's understanding of their emotions.
- Parents speak very highly of the childminder. They appreciate the emphasis on nature and instilling children's love of the outdoor environment. Parents speak of the number of rich learning experiences and how exceptionally well children are prepared for school and how they 'have grown into independent young people'.
- The childminder has a deep understanding as to how children in her care learn. She expertly enables young children to learn and explore resources, while providing a commentary of words and phrases tailored to their individual needs. The childminder is highly responsive to the children's individual needs and interests. She supports children to be curious, to discover and to investigate.

This in turn leads to confident children who have a hunger to learn.

- The childminder is highly successful in promoting children's understanding of the diverse world they live in. She encourages children to respect people, families and communities beyond their own. For example, children support a number of national charity days where they partake in events and fund raise. The childminder reads books to the children about different cultures and provides activities related to religious and cultural festivals to broaden their knowledge in this area.
- Children are offered a wide range of resources to support and extend the activities the childminder plans with her co-childminder and her assistant. The childminder regularly changes the resources she has on display to represent children's interests or topics which they are learning about. The childminder plans activities around children's interests to focus on meeting children's developmental needs. For example, she provides tactile experiences for children who like sensory play, to develop their fine motor skills.
- The childminder has embedded a rigorous system to support and monitor the development of her assistant. She coaches and mentors her assistant, to help her confidently perform to her full potential. The childminder meets with her assistant to discuss her progress and general well-being. She says she enjoys working with the childminder and her co-childminder, and feels exceptionally valued. The childminder and her co-childminder, observe each other's teaching and strive for excellence for children.
- Children have excellent relationships with the childminder, her co-childminder and her assistant. The childminder knows each and every child individually. She is a superb role model who promotes children's growing independence very well. Children are consistently encouraged to do things for themselves, and the childminder gives them time for this.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an excellent knowledge of her role in keeping children safe. She regularly updates training that provides her with a very secure knowledge of the sign and symptoms of abuse. She maintains an exceptional understanding of the procedures to follow should she need to respond to concerns about the welfare of a child and ensures her assistant and co-childminder have the same secure knowledge. The childminder has a broad understanding of safeguarding concerns, such as, the potential risk to children with regards to radicalisation and extremism. She meticulously carries out regular checks to the premises and equipment, making sure children are cared for in an extremely safe and secure environment.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY428013
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	10232978
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 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	15
Date of previous inspection	5 October 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011. She operates from her co-childminder's premises, which are located in a small village on the outskirts of Brackley, Northamptonshire. She works with an assistant. The childminder offers care all day, Monday to Friday, throughout the year. She receives funding to provide free early years education to children aged three- and four-years-old. The childminder holds a relevant qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Amanda Perkin

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 have taken that into account in her evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector had a learning walk with the childminder and her co-childminder, through all areas of the premises used by the children.
- Parents shared their views through written feedback. The inspector took these views into account.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and her co-childminder about the leadership of the setting.
- The inspector looked at a sample of the documentation. This included evidence about suitability the childminder and her assistant's qualifications.

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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