

Childminder Report

Inspection date

8 October 2015

Previous inspection date

20 July 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder provides outstanding individual settling-in routines unique to each child. This helps them to feel extremely secure and develop very strong attachments to the childminder.
- The childminder plans an excellent range of experiences for children. She enables them to initiate and lead their learning, giving them plenty of time to practise new skills and develop their ideas.
- The childminder makes meticulous observations of children's development. She accurately assesses their progress and uses the information extremely well to help them make rapid progress.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary. The childminder has extremely high expectations and promotes an environment of respect for people's differences. She supports older children in working together harmoniously, negotiating rules of play and developing positive bonds with their peers.
- The childminder continually drives improvement. She uses highly successful systems of self-evaluation to identify ways to develop her already outstanding provision. For example, she is addressing ways to use her garden even more effectively. She uses training and research to continue to extend her knowledge, such as how children learn through play.
- The childminder takes children's safety extremely seriously. She provides vigilant supervision, while enabling children to manage appropriate risks to promote their development. For example, toddlers confidently learn to manage steps and older children gain an excellent awareness of road safety.
- Parents comment very positively on the childminder's high quality care. They state they feel pride in their children's development, recognising the important role the childminder plays in that.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the opportunities for children to learn that they can use books for information.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching indoors and at the local park.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at convenient times and carried out a joint observation.
- The inspector checked safeguarding information, risk assessments and the premises.
- The inspector took account of the childminder's self-evaluation, the parents' survey and written feedback from parents left for the inspector.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies and procedures, children's development records and planning.

Inspector

Elaine Douglas

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder has an excellent understanding of her responsibilities and ensures she meets all the requirements to protect and promote children's welfare. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder makes very thorough risk assessments to help children remain safe. For example, she used porridge oats for babies to explore instead of sand, to prevent the risk of them putting it in their mouth or rubbing their eyes. The childminder keeps up to date with safeguarding training to have an excellent knowledge of how to protect children from the risk of harm. She is proactive in establishing strong partnerships with other early years settings. She provides a written summary of children's development when they first start pre-school, for example, This helps staff to understand the children's starting points and provides a constant approach to children's development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The quality of teaching is outstanding. The childminder expertly uses all opportunities to support children's development. She observes to see what holds children's interests to know how to respond and provide the best support. For example, young children watched with fascination as the childminder started to use a dustpan and brush. She enabled them to have a go, providing excellent encouragement, as well as close supervision to protect their health. The childminder supports children's communication skills extremely well, for example, by using words with actions, modelling their correct use and expertly extending children's vocabulary. She responds extremely well to children's play ideas, providing additional resources. For example, when very young children put a construction toy to their mouth and blew, the childminder provided a trumpet. They explored how they could use it and watched the childminder demonstrate. Eventually, they mastered it and were extremely pleased with their achievement.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder follows highly successful procedures to meet children's physical and emotional needs exceptionally well. This is because she works closely with parents to understand each child's routines and unique individual needs. As a result, children are extremely confident and independent. The childminder provides an environment that enables children to initiate their learning and make independent choices. However, there are fewer opportunities for children to use non-fiction books. The childminder organises many exciting outings to give children extensive experiences. They learn about habitats, their own community and the wider world. The childminder motivates children to learn through recognising their interests. For example, older children practise their writing and numeracy skills through chalking in the garden.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress from their starting points. The childminder uses skilful teaching and observation to help children reach their full potential. Children demonstrate deep concentration and a thirst for learning. This prepares them extremely well for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY285725
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	826873
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	20 July 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2004. She lives in Cotford St Luke, near Taunton, Somerset. The childminder provides care each weekday for 50 weeks a year, including before and after school. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education for children aged three and four years.

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