

Childminder report

Inspection date: 25 October 2019

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

The provision is good

Children are happy, self-assured and settled and enjoy the time they spend in the childminder's care. She supports children's emotional well-being and sense of belonging well. For example, new babies settle very quickly following her reassuring smiles and cuddles. Children are motivated to learn in the stimulating environment she provides. They enjoy a wide range of interesting learning experiences and make good progress from their initial starting points. For example, children of all ages demonstrate their developing mathematical abilities. They sort objects, identify numbers, count out loud together and talk about shape, size and colours as they play. Children respond well to the childminder's behavioural expectations, learning how to keep themselves and their friends safe. They know about 'listening and looking' at adults when they talk about keeping safe. For example, they know when the 'walking feet' reminder is used inside, they must not run in stockinged feet. Children wait patiently while the childminder checks the garden for any risks so they can play safely in the fresh air. The childminder has a calm, friendly manner and is a positive role model, recognising when children are being kind and sharing with lots of praise and encouragement. Children develop a very positive self-image through the childminder's consistent support.

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

- The positive and well-established relationships between the childminder and her co-minder support children's needs well and they recognise the uniqueness of each child. They find out about children's current interests, likes and dislikes and babies' home-care routines so that they always feel safe and secure.
- The childminder is very effective in helping children to understand how to keep themselves healthy and safe. For example, children know how to wash their hands properly with soap, reminding each other to 'rub and rub', and learn to play safely in lively activities in the garden when it is wet and slippery underfoot.
- Overall, the childminder has strong relationships with parents and others who are involved in caring for the children. Parents say they are very happy with the care, learning and exciting craft and outdoor activities provided. They say they are made to feel very welcome and are kept well informed about their children's learning and well-being.
- Children show great enthusiasm as they choose resources and activities across all areas of the curriculum from the 'choosing book' and are curious and motivated as they play. The childminder knows children well and understands how they prefer to learn. She undertakes effective observations of children's learning and makes accurate assessments to help her plan for their individual needs. Occasionally, she does not use the opportunities that arise during children's self-chosen play to consistently challenge and extend their learning to even higher levels.

- The childminder supports children's communication and language skills well. For instance, she repeats what younger children say during a matching body parts game on a giant cut-out figure, emphasising the correct pronunciation of words and introducing new vocabulary such as 'eyebrow' and 'heel'. Older children confidently retell stories and role play their favourite superhero characters as she encourages their descriptive language and imaginative skills. She is keen to keep building on her skills and has plans to complete advanced training in how to support children's speech and communication to improve outcomes for children.
- The childminder provides good opportunities for children to broaden their knowledge and understanding of people and communities and their differences. For example, she plans interesting visits in the local community, such as meeting with members of the fire and rescue service, and celebrates cultural festivals through music and cooking activities.
- The childminder is committed to providing children with good-quality care and education. She regularly reflects on her practice to help develop and implement ideas for further improvement, such as new special named boxes for each child's belongings to help encourage independence and self-care skills, ready for starting school. However, she does not consistently take into account the views of parents when deciding what could be improved at the setting.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

This experienced childminder has a good knowledge of her responsibility to support children's safety and welfare. She knows the signs and symptoms to look out for and the correct procedure to follow if she has child protection concerns. The childminder discusses the role of safeguarding with her co-minder regularly. They carry out research to develop and extend their knowledge of current issues, such as extreme behaviours and attitudes. The childminder carries out thorough safety checks throughout the setting to help ensure that any potential hazards are minimised.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen the good teaching to support children to be even more curious and provide more challenging experiences, to extend their learning to even higher levels
- extend further the partnerships with parents to involve them more fully in the process of self-evaluation to help identify strengths in practice and areas for improvement.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY299842
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	10126627
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	1 March 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2005. She lives in the Linden area of Gloucester. She offers care from 7.30am to 6pm from Monday to Friday, all year round. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three, and four years. The childminder holds a relevant childcare qualification at level 3 and works with a co-childminder. Overnight care can be made by prior arrangement.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Jan Harvey

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the childminder's interactions with children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector sampled children's paper and digital observation, planning and assessment information and looked at registration records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder and her co-minder's suitability to work with children and sampled some policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children and read parents' testimonials to gather their views about the service and their children's progress.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the childminder.

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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