

Childminder Report

Inspection date

22 September 2015

Previous inspection date

25 January 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder makes children's safety her highest priority. She has an excellent knowledge of child protection issues and a very clear understanding of what to do if she has concerns. She is highly vigilant in maintaining a safe environment.
- The childminder makes effective use of knowledge from training to support children's learning and development. In particular, she supports their speech development exceptionally well. The quality of teaching is very good overall.
- Children thrive under the warm and attentive care of the childminder and her assistant. They form exceptionally strong bonds with the childminder and each other. They grow into confident, highly independent individuals.
- Children have fun in this setting. They thoroughly enjoy their time with the playful, enthusiastic childminder. She provides a wealth of experiences that help all children make very good progress overall.
- The childminder and her assistant accurately assess children's development. They quickly identify if children's progress is slower than expected. They work very closely with parents and other professionals to make sure children receive all the support they need to help them catch up.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not fully support older and more able children's early reading and writing skills, to help them make very rapid progress in readiness for school.
- The childminder does not always clearly plan how and when she will bring about improvements to benefit children as quickly as possible.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for older children to hear the different sounds in words and begin to link these with letters, in preparation for starting school
- help address identified weaknesses more rapidly, to benefit children as soon as possible, by clearly planning how and when improvements will be achieved.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder, her assistant and children playing and during daily routines.
- The inspector sampled documents, including policies, children's records, evidence of the childminder's and her assistant's suitability, and training that they have attended.
- The inspector talked to the childminder and her assistant about how they check children's progress and support their learning.
- The inspector took account of written testimonials from parents.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder how she evaluates her practice and her plans for continued improvement.

Inspector

Rachel Edwards

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder has a secure knowledge of the welfare, learning and development requirements. She ensures her assistant remains suitable to work with children and implements her extensive policies and procedures fully. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has completed a relevant childcare qualification and makes good use of her knowledge and skills from training to improve her practice. For example, to support children with additional needs, she attended special educational needs training. This enabled her to contribute more effectively to children's care plans. She seeks feedback from parents, children and her assistant to reflect on her practice. She has made many improvements since her last inspection. For example, she has developed her garden, which particularly benefits children who learn better outside. She does not always address some weaknesses as quickly as she could to benefit children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows each child well and how to effectively support learning overall. She plans interesting and exciting activities that children really want to join in with. For example, they work together to create a large tree display. They enthusiastically paint and stick leaves they collected. They chatter constantly, as they have so much to talk about. They make interesting observations such as, 'Rain can't fly because it only comes down.' They speak confidently as adults value their comments. The childminder weaves mathematical language and ideas throughout activities. Children decide how many grapes to have and correctly estimate how many to take or put back. Children recognise many familiar words and they show a great interest in naming letters. The childminder is uncertain though about how best to prepare older children for learning to read at school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children feel happy and secure. They are self-assured and express themselves confidently. They develop their own ideas and manage their personal care with great competence. The childminder is a wonderful role model as she instils in the children a sense of curiosity and love of learning. Children behave exceptionally well because the childminder has high expectations and a consistent approach. She very skilfully supports young children to be kind and thoughtful. Children are polite and friendly. They gain an excellent understanding of the importance of healthy eating and exercise. They learn about both through helping at the allotment and cooking the produce. They frequently take bus trips into the local community, where they gain confidence in different social situations. These outings and planned activities help them learn to value differences between themselves and others.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are highly motivated to join in and develop a real thirst for knowledge. They take part in interesting and challenging activities that help them make very good progress overall. Despite a minor weakness in the teaching of early reading skills, children are very ready for the next stage in learning and their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY354373
Local authority	Swindon
Inspection number	828633
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	25 January 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2007. She lives in Swindon. The childminder works with an assistant. She cares for children every weekday throughout the year. She also offers overnight care for one child. The childminder receives funding for the provision of early education for children aged two, three and four years old. The childminder and her assistant both hold childcare qualifications at level 3.

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