

Inspection date

5 March 2015

Previous inspection date

4 February 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children demonstrate they are comfortable in their surroundings and enjoy their time in the childminder's company. Children have a close bond with the childminder, which supports their emotional well-being. The childminder reminds children about putting toys away before doing something else to help them understand about risks.
- The children make good progress in their learning. The childminder speaks to children constantly about what they are doing and encourages their emerging language skills, by repeating words back to them.
- Children have easy access to books, which helps them to develop an interest in the written word. There are many resources, easily available for the children, to help them make independent choices in their play.
- The childminder has a good understanding about how to safeguard children. The childminder has worked hard since her last inspection to drive improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always share information about children's development with other early years settings that children attend, to provide a consistent approach to their learning.
- Children are not always encouraged to help in the preparation of snacks and meals, such as laying the table or getting their own drinks from the water dispenser. This means that children's personal independence is not fully supported at these times.
- Although children enjoy regular outings, the childminder does not provide a range of activities that cover all areas of learning outside to enhance their development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide additional learning opportunities outdoors to help those children who learn better outside to explore and investigate to enhance their development
- encourage further children's personal independence and their ability to take on responsibilities, particularly at mealtimes
- strengthen partnerships with other early years groups that children attend, so all adults are able to contribute effectively to children's learning and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and looked at the resources, including the creative resources, and other equipment available to the children.
- The inspector talked to the childminder about her assessment methods for checking children's progress and discussed safeguarding procedures.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including children's records, and the childminder's written policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and children from the childminder's parent survey.

Inspector

Hilary Tierney

Inspection findings

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

Children are supported well in their learning, because the childminder completes effective observations and assessments to help her track children's progress. The childminder uses good questions to help children think as they play. For example, she encourages children to talk about the colour of the modelling dough. She asks them how it feels and what they can do to make it less sticky. Children solve the problem by adding flour and mixing it to stop it being sticky. The childminder helps children count as they add spoonfuls of flour. This helps children develop their language and mathematical skills. The childminder uses children's interests to help them learn, and enables them to make choices in their play. They enjoy playing with the cars and trucks. They talk about the fire engines and fire station and what colours they are. The childminder interacts with the children well, encouraging them to talk about what they are doing. This helps to promote children's communication skills. Children are prepared well for their next stages in their learning.

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

The childminder provides a welcoming, well-resourced environment, where children feel safe and secure. There are many displays of children's work around the walls, which help children develop a sense of belonging and promote their self-esteem. Children are confident and demonstrate they feel safe in the childminder's company. Children are well behaved. They understand the rules of the home, such as sitting at the table to eat. The childminder teaches children about effective personal hygiene procedures, to promote their good health and help prevent the spread of infection. Children move around the home easily. Through careful explanations from the childminder, children are beginning to understand about making sure they tidy up before moving to another activity, otherwise there will be too many toys on the floor.

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

The childminder has worked hard to meet all recommendations from her last inspection. The childminder has completed training, including a course on completing observations and assessments. This has helped her track children's progress more effectively and improve the quality of teaching to a consistently good standard. The childminder has effective methods of regularly evaluating her practice. She clearly identifies areas to improve, and includes timescales of when she wants to achieve them. For example, the childminder has identified she would like to improve her garden. There are good partnerships with parents. The childminder shares information with them regularly. The childminder shares their child's learning journal with the parents and ensures they are able to support their child's learning at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY380177
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	844488
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	4 February 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2008. She lives in the Rowanfield area of Cheltenham. The family has three cats and a hamster.

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