

Childminder Report

Inspection date

3 November 2016

Previous inspection date

5 November 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 has made significant improvements to her service since the previous inspection. For example, skilful use of evaluation has led to the provision of imaginatively resourced outdoor spaces which children enjoy using immensely. These changes have contributed to the improvement in children's outcomes.
- The childminder makes the most of the learning environments to provide children with an exceptionally rich range of experiences. She is alert to opportunities to provoke children's curiosity and to encourage them to have a go at new things.
- The childminder makes excellent use of her qualification. She knows how to take children's learning forward, so that they progress rapidly from their starting points.
- Children flourish and take great delight in their play. They are extremely independent, keen to learn and happily decide what to do from the wealth of resources available.
- The childminder is a positive and enthusiastic role model for children, who respond remarkably well for their ages through playing together amicably and cooperatively. Their behaviour is excellent. They learn to respect each other's differences and the oldest children are kind to their younger friends.
- The childminder engages successfully with parents. Highly effective partnerships help her to meet children's needs rapidly. She provides wisely chosen support and obtains outside advice for any children at risk of falling behind, so that they catch up.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities for the oldest children to practise their early writing and literacy skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector checked the childminder's understanding of safeguarding matters and sampled a range of documents including the record of children's attendance.
- The inspector read feedback from parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector had discussions with the childminder about how she evaluates her service and plans improvements.
- The inspector observed the childminder's teaching and its impact on the children's learning.
- The inspector and childminder observed children during an activity and completed a follow-up discussion about children's learning, progress and behaviour.

Inspector

Rosemary Davies

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder has an exceptional understanding of child protection. She knows exactly what to do if she has concerns. She prioritises children's safety at all times. For example, she makes visitors clear about what they can or cannot do. She pays excellent attention to teaching children about personal safety. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has well-thought-out plans for her professional development. She targets this on enriching her teaching skills to further improve children's outcomes, for example, in teaching mathematics. The childminder actively seeks parents' views to help evaluate her service. She checks children's progress thoroughly from their starting points. She actively encourages gender equality and children know that boys and girls can use the same toys.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder supports children's play experiences extremely well. She has high expectations of children's conduct and what they can achieve. She plans meticulously organised experiences in nearly all areas to extend their skills. For example, she taught the oldest children to use scissors competently and developed the youngest children's concentration when they all created firework pictures. However, the childminder occasionally misses chances to encourage the oldest children to use their early writing skills. The childminder knows when to step in and ask a probing question to extend learning. For example, when children made a jigsaw, she asked, 'Do we need a straight piece or one with a corner?' The childminder encourages children to explore problems and work out solutions. For example, when children are intrigued with how a glue stick works, she gives them time to experiment and work out its use.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Excellent relationships between the childminder and children underpin much of the childminder's success. Children trust her to help them when needed, which gives them high levels of confidence to try new things. Children are keen to be helpful such as when bringing clean nappies to the changing mat or feeding the pet rabbits. Children have excellent opportunities to develop physical skills and learn about healthy lifestyles. For example, they bounce energetically on 'bouncing donkeys' and know about brushing their teeth to keep them clean.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children acquire knowledge, understanding and skills that prepare them extremely well for their next learning stage. They make rapid improvement in their communication and language skills. For example, they listen carefully to stories, learn new words and respond confidently to questions. Children are enthusiastic learners who are curious about their world. They gain independence, self-esteem and are extremely polite.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY407662
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	1058923
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	4
Number of children on roll	6
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	5 November 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2010. She is located in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. The childminder provides care from 8am to 6pm each weekday, with the exception of Fridays, all year round, apart from bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder is funded to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years. The childminder holds a relevant qualification at level 3.

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