

Childminder report

Inspection date: 25 January 2024

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

The childminder ensures that children of all ages are exceptionally settled, confident and independent. She has built very close relationships with the children. She knows them extremely well and takes every opportunity to boost their self-esteem by offering praise and acknowledgement. Young children have an impressive knowledge of routines and expectations. They explain that they have to tidy up before lunch and do so without help. The childminder ensures that children learn excellent manners from a young age, and these are evident throughout the day. Children respect one another and work extremely well as a team.

The childminder provides a stimulating and exciting range of activities, which are carefully planned to support children's individual learning. Children relish taking part in singing songs and using linked resources, which really bring the activity to life. They describe excitedly how they visited the cathedral dressed as kings. The childminder is exceptionally knowledgeable about children's learning. She has done extensive research into different methods of early years education and picked the aspects that work best for her and the children she cares for. She attends weekly seminars to extend her knowledge and enhance children's development. For example, she has recently done training on brain development. Children make exceptional progress.

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

- The childminder knows children exceptionally well, which enables her to fully identify their interests and carefully assess what they need to do next. She confidently describes each child's fascinations and ways of thinking and shares this information with parents to help them understand and support these. She uses this information to provide a highly ambitious and stimulating curriculum that helps all children to make exceptional progress in all areas of their learning.
- Children of all ages are extremely polite, routinely using good manners without needing reminders. The childminder is exceptionally consistent in providing clear boundaries and full explanations, such as how to share and negotiate. She uses highly effective props to help young children discuss feelings. For example, she uses wooden spoons with pictures of different emotions drawn on. She asks the children how they think she is feeling and they pick 'happy'.
- Children develop the highest levels of independence and evidently know routines extremely well. They tidy up before lunchtime and all help to move the table out of the way before singing. Even the younger children go off confidently on their own to put on their coats and shoes. Children relish attending. They forge strong friendships and enjoy very close interactions with the caring childminder. They are eager to take part in interesting activities and keen to explore. For example, children use knives to cut lemons and then squeeze them to flavour water. They

excitedly discuss the smell and the taste.

- The childminder provides stimulating activities and resources that spark children's curiosity. Children relish choosing what to do and exploring. They experiment independently with pouring out tubes of different-coloured water and making marks outside with pavement chalks. The childminder seizes every opportunity to teach children. For example, when they pretend a strap is a fire hose, she encourages them to measure it and then lies down so that they can measure her too. She then takes a photo of the children and they look at it to identify who is the tallest and who is the the shortest.
- Children of all ages are exceptionally strong communicators, who express themselves with great confidence. There is a constant buzz of conversation, and the childminder and children discuss a wide variety of subjects, including the fox that they feed and the windy weather. The childminder skilfully links the discussions about the wind to the story of the three little pigs and the wolf blowing their houses down. The childminder frequently introduces new vocabulary and has a word of the week, such as 'obstacle'.
- The childminder communicates exceptionally well with parents. She frequently shares information with them about their children's progress as well as giving them information about relevant topics. For example, she gives them information about the normal ups and downs of children's development to help them understand their child's behaviour and learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY411490
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	10317435
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	31 May 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2010. She lives in the Wyman's Brook area of Cheltenham. She is in receipt of funding for children aged four. The childminder has a relevant level 3 qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Catherine Sample

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how she ensures they are safe and suitable.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises their early years provision, including the aims and rationale for their early years curriculum.
- Children spoke to the inspector about what they enjoy doing while with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- Parents shared their written views on the setting with the inspector.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2024