

Childminder Report

Inspection date

30 April 2015

Previous inspection date

23 September 2008

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder uses her extensive skills, qualification and knowledge to very accurately identify children's individual learning and development needs, whatever their abilities. As a result, she very successfully promotes the development of all children attending.
- Children are carefully nurtured and exceptionally well settled. They confidently develop high levels of self-assurance and independence that allow them to play and explore, and to be extremely well prepared for the next stage of learning. Children are eager to investigate and lead their own learning.
- The childminder has excellent relationships with parents. She supports all parents in addressing their children's changing and ongoing needs, both at home and when with her, to ensure children make significant progress.
- The childminder has developed excellent systems to keep children safe and secure in her care. She has a wide range of experience that ensures she is confident in following the procedure for protecting children.
- The childminder has effectively used training and self-evaluation to develop her knowledge and skills. This has enabled her to provide children with continually improving learning experiences of the very highest quality.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the mathematical programme for older children to fully develop their understanding of shape, space and measurement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder interacting with the children at a range of activities.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and discussed the childminder's policies, procedures and evaluation methods.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder about how the children learn from the activities provided.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of adults to work with children, the childminder's qualification and other documentation.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views from written comments.

Inspector

Judith Harris

Inspection findings

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

The childminder uses her exceptionally accurate knowledge of children to help them follow their interests. For example, when children are interested in ice cream, she plans relevant activities such as making ice cream treats with the pretend food and helps children create an ice cream shop. Children participate enthusiastically. The childminder makes best possible use of such play to extend children's learning. She asks questions as they play and gives the children time to think and respond. The children begin to learn about numbers as part of the shop game. However, the childminder has identified that she misses some chances to extend the older children's understanding of shape, space and measurement. Children benefit from exciting visits to the local woods, parks and wildlife areas. There, they practise their physical skills frequently and explore the natural world. The childminder helps children to be independent learners extremely well. Children are exceptionally well prepared with necessary skills for the move to school.

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

Children develop extremely warm relationships with the childminder. As a result, they are remarkably confident as they engage well with the activities. The childminder's sensitive and extremely caring manner means that children feel valued and emotionally secure. The childminder ensures that children can help themselves to the wide range of resources for independent play. The childminder is proactive in helping children to understand the importance of being healthy. She meets their physical care needs extremely well. Children play in a very safe and secure environment. In particular, the childminder helps younger children to learn how to manage their own safety and develop very good independence in their physical skills exceptionally well.

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

The childminder works in close partnership with her co-childminder. She has an excellent understanding of her responsibility to safeguard and protect children, which she does to a very high standard, implementing all requirements. The childminder's professional experience ensures she is able to respond appropriately to any concerns regarding children's welfare. The childminder makes extensive use of self-evaluation and training opportunities to improve her practice. Since her last inspection, the childminder has addressed the recommendations set then and implemented extensive monitoring systems that allow her to identify any gaps in children's learning. Such changes have helped her lift her provision to a very high quality. The childminder builds strong and effective relationships with other professionals.

Setting details

Unique reference number	101144
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	839086
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	23 September 2008
Telephone number	

The childminder started minding in 1997 and registered with Ofsted in 2001. The childminder lives in Cheltenham. She works with a co-childminder and operates all year round on weekdays from 7.30am to 5.30pm, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at Level 3.

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