

Inspection date	21 April 2015
Previous inspection date	12 May 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 develop strong bonds with the childminder and her assistant. As a result, they are happy, content and confident. Children receive lots of praise and encouragement for their good behaviour. They learn to care for their toys and play well together.
- The childminder provides a well-resourced, clean and welcoming environment, which motivates children to learn. She extends children's learning experiences by taking them out to participate in a variety of activities in the local community.
- The childminder has good knowledge of how children learn and uses assessment effectively to determine their next learning needs. Consequently, children make good progress in all areas of learning, acquiring the skills they need ready for school.
- Children's are safeguarded well because the childminder is secure in her knowledge of how to promote their health and safety.
- Partnerships with her assistant, parents and other professionals are well established and make a strong contribution to meeting children's needs. This results in the regular sharing of detailed information, which supports children's learning at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Resources are sometimes difficult for younger children to use without help, and are not set up invitingly to encourage children's natural curiosity in their self-chosen play.
- The childminder misses chances to promote children's mathematical language.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's learning by providing a richer variety of resources that children can easily access themselves and that prompt their natural curiosity
- raise teaching to a consistently very high quality by seizing opportunities for children to develop their early mathematical language in play and daily routines.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and interactions between the childminder, her assistant and the children.
- The inspector looked at children's information and development records.
- The inspector had ongoing discussions with the childminder and her assistant.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's evaluation, assessment and planning methods, and her policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of parents' views through messages and letters.

Inspector

Jan Harvey

Inspection findings

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the learning and development requirements. She checks children's progress making sure that all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, progress well. The childminder completes the required progress checks for two-year-old children with input from their parents. Children are well supported in developing their communication and language skills. The childminder and her assistant skilfully introduce new words in conversations. They remind children of experiences and key events they have enjoyed. These teaching strategies widen children's vocabularies and reinforce their learning. Children develop their early literacy skills well. They enjoy being read to and looking at books themselves. Opportunities to enrich their expressive art and design skills are good, such as when they enjoy designing and making a mask. However, the programme for mathematics and introducing mathematical ideas, including number language, is not as thorough as other learning programmes.

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

Children are very happy being with the childminder and her assistant. They gain confidence and competently get their own drinks, and choose toys and activities. This helps prepare children well emotionally for the next stage of learning. Some resources are difficult for children to get without help and are not always set up invitingly to encourage self-chosen play and motivation as well as possible. This means that children are unable to pursue their learning and exploration to their own satisfaction, without interruption. However, the childminder then provides what they want to extend their learning. The childminder and her assistant are kind and caring role models. They help children to develop self-control. Children rest and sleep according to parents' wishes and children's individual needs. This supports children's overall health and physical care needs well.

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

The childminder knows her responsibilities and makes sure that her assistants know theirs. She meets requirements to a good standard. Her risk assessments are robust and involve children so that they learn how to keep themselves safe. Parents and children contribute to the childminder's evaluation methods. The childminder has a positive attitude to professional development. She has gained a relevant qualification since her previous inspection. She has addressed recommendations set at that inspection. All of these actions have helped the childminder to maintain the good standard of her provision. Parents are kept well informed of their children's progress and experiences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY315487
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	828041
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	11
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	12 May 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2005. She lives in the Hardwicke area of Gloucester. Care is provided on a full- or part-time basis throughout the year, from 7.30am to 6pm. The childminder works with one full-time assistant and two part-time assistants. The childminder has a relevant qualification at level 3. The childminder receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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Piccadilly Gate
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M1 2WD

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