

Childminder Report

Inspection date

15 April 2015

Previous inspection date

6 March 2009

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 is highly reflective. She constantly strives to provide the best possible care and learning experiences for all children. As a result, she continues to enhance and improve her practice, to benefit all the children and their families.
- Children thrive under the care and warm attention of the childminder. She follows excellent practices to ensure children that feel secure, are safe and healthy.
- The childminder has an excellent understanding of how children learn through play. She provides exciting experiences and skilled teaching so that children make rapid progress, including those who are at risk of falling behind.
- The childminder makes very effective use of training to develop her skills. In particular, she supports children's early literacy and mathematics skills very well to give them a head start when they go to school.
- The childminder works in close partnership with parents. She keeps them extremely well informed. She involves them fully in their children's learning so they are in the best position to support their children at home.
- Children have wonderful opportunities for playing outside and learning about the natural world.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make sure that children seated at the table can easily see and reach what they are doing, for example, by using booster seats of an appropriate height.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and care routines, inside and in the garden.
- The inspector observed and discussed with the childminder how she supports children's care and learning.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including children's records, policies and procedures, and the childminder's self-evaluation record.
- The inspector took account of parents' written comments.

Inspector

Rachel Edwards

Inspection findings

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

Children have great fun with the childminder. They are absorbed in richly diverse activities throughout the day and spend a great deal of time outdoors. The childminder makes excellent use of her rural location and links to the local farm to provide children with memorable experiences, such as feeding lambs. Children recall events with great enthusiasm, using a wide vocabulary because they have such a lot to talk about. The childminder plans thoroughly to maximise children's enjoyment and learning. On an outing, she takes magnifiers, books, and spades for children to dig for worms, so they can examine and identify their finds. She adapts activities well for different abilities. When making jelly, the youngest enjoy the challenge of pulling the chunks apart, while older children count, measure and learn about melting and setting. Everyone joins in. The childminder liaises highly effectively with parents, other settings children attend and schools they will move on to. There is continuity in children's learning, such as in developing pre-reading skills.

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

The childminder makes every effort to make children feel 'at home' so that they settle very quickly and grow in confidence. She creates books for each child with reassuring photographs from home and everyone has their own coat peg and towel. Children behave exceptionally well. They show each other a great deal of care and kindness, offering help and sharing toys. The childminder gives copious praise and encouragement, and children celebrate each other's achievements with hugs and 'high fives'. Children tuck into the delicious and nutritious meals the childminder provides. She introduces them to varied tastes and textures so they eat well. They learn more about healthy eating as they grow herbs and vegetables. They are physically very active and they learn how this keeps them fit and healthy. Children become highly independent, confident and have a real joy for learning. The childminder prepares them exceptionally well for their next stage in learning.

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

The childminder monitors her educational provision and children's development very accurately to ensure children make good progress in relation to their starting points. She works with outside professionals to secure promptly any additional help children may need. The childminder has an excellent understanding of her role in safeguarding children. She has attended advanced child protection training and considers current concerns, such as e-safety. She finds innovative ways to enhance children's experiences. By collaborating with other childminders, she secured a grant and plot of land to develop an exciting outdoor play area. She makes good use of training, for example, by changing her book display she has encouraged children to choose them more frequently.

Setting details

Unique reference number	110696
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	839728
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	6 March 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1996. She lives with her husband and two adult daughters in a house in the village of Oare, near Marlborough, in Wiltshire. She provides care from Monday to Thursday, from 7.15am until 6.30pm. The family keep chickens, a pet dog and working sheepdogs. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education to two-, three- and four-year-old children. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3.

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