Childminder Report



Inspection date14 July 2015Previous inspection date20 January 2012

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 makes excellent use of her environment, indoors and outdoors. She organises the extensive range of resources exceptionally well to enable children to make independent choices and initiate their learning. As a result, children thoroughly enjoy exploring and discovering, and are highly motivated to learn.
- Children arrive extremely happy, and are eager and enthusiastic to start taking part in activities. They are exceptionally confident because the childminder and her assistant provide highly effective support for children's physical and emotional needs. Parents state their children receive an excellent foundation for their future learning.
- The childminder has established outstanding partnerships with parents, outside agencies and other early years providers. This has a significant impact on children's well-being and development. The childminder exchanges extensive information as well as providing resources for parents to take home and share with their children.
- The childminder and her assistant keep meticulous records of children's achievements. This enables them to have an extensive knowledge of children as unique individuals and to plan extremely well for their future learning. They identify any gaps and ensure they close quickly through highly effective intervention and support. As a result, children make rapid progress.
- The childminder provides excellent supervision and support for her assistant. This ensures children always receive the highest quality care. They have both gained qualifications to have an even greater knowledge of child development and they continue to attend training. For example, they now look at supporting children's mathematical development through daily routines, such as pairing shoes.

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What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

use all opportunities to help children link sounds to letters to support their literacy development even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and her assistant at convenient times and carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with parents present at the inspection and took account of the childminder's self-evaluation and parents' survey.
- The inspector checked safeguarding information and the premises.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies and procedures, children's development records and planning.

Inspector

Elaine Douglas

Inspection findings

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

The childminder and her assistant provide children with excellent support. This prepares them extremely well for their next stage of learning and school. They engage skilfully in children's games and extend their language and communication skills. The adults use sign language, actions and pictures to support children of all abilities. Children learn about their own environment and the wider world. They demonstrate excellent imaginations and extend their ideas because the resources are available for children to come back to later. For example, at the inspection, children packed a suitcase to go on holiday, then explored paint and patterns before going back to their role play. Overall, the childminder supports children's literacy development extremely well. Children enjoy stories and use books independently. They develop early writing skills and find their names to register their attendance or find their place at snack time. However, adults occasionally miss opportunities to help them link letter sounds with the written letters.

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

Children arrive enthusiastic to learn. They are extremely confident in the childminder's home because she and her assistant help children to be as independent as possible. Children help prepare and serve their own snack, put on their coats and shoes, and take care of their personal hygiene, for example. The childminder provides an extensive range of resources to support children according to their individual needs. The childminder and her assistant are exceptionally calm role models for children. Consequently, children's behaviour is exemplary. They play well together and invite their friends to join in with their games. The adults teach children excellent, safe and healthy practices as they play. At the inspection, children strapped their dolls and themselves into their seats to be safe on a pretend aeroplane. In addition, they remembered to pack their sun cream and hat for their holiday.

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

The childminder has an outstanding knowledge of her responsibilities. She knows how to safeguard children and what to do should a child be at risk of harm. The childminder has made clear improvements since the last inspection. She regularly reviews her policies and procedures and shares them with parents. This ensures they know how the childminder protects and promotes their children's welfare. In addition, children regularly practise the emergency evacuation procedures to know how to help with their own safety. The childminder regularly reviews her practice and supervises her assistant extremely well to identify how she can make even more improvements. For example, she introduced a new system so that children can make even greater choices from the extensive resources. She also keeps up to date with current issues to achieve superb outcomes for children.

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Setting details

Unique reference number EY435388

Local authority Somerset

Inspection number 838954

Type of provision Childminder

Registration category Childminder

Age range of children 0 - 8

Total number of places 12

Number of children on roll 14

Name of provider

Date of previous inspection 20 January 2012

Telephone number

The childminder registered in 2011. She lives in the centre of Taunton, Somerset. She works with an assistant and they provide care each weekday for 49 weeks a year, including before and after school. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years old. The childminder has a Foundation Degree in Early Childhood Studies and her assistant holds an early years qualification at level 3.

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