

Childminder Report

Inspection date

14 August 2015

Previous inspection date

5 May 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 arrangements for safeguarding are very robust. Children show that they feel extremely secure, safe and happy in the childminder's home.
- The childminder has an excellent understanding of the legal requirements. She works hard to keep her knowledge and skills up to date so she can maintain the highest standards of care and learning.
- Children have access to indoor and outdoor learning environments which are exceptionally well-resourced and organised. The childminder uses these to provide children with a range of high-quality learning experiences. As a result, children are confident and highly motivated to explore.
- The childminder continually talks to the children, introducing new words to expand their vocabulary. She offers them a wealth of praise for their efforts and achievements. Children develop high levels of self-esteem.
- Children behave very well because the childminder has high expectations of them. She is skilled in helping children to learn about the boundaries that are in place for their safety. Children listen and respond positively to these.
- Children are extremely well prepared for their next stage in learning and for moving on to school. This is because the childminder helps them to develop independence and to make choices and decisions about the activities they take part in.
- Recommendations raised at the last inspection have been addressed. The childminder demonstrates an uncompromising commitment towards providing an outstanding service.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to enhance the support given to parents that helps them to guide their children's learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector took a tour of the premises and outside area during the inspection and jointly evaluated learning activities with the childminder.
- The inspector observed children playing in the lounge, kitchen and garden.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a wide range of documents, including a selection of policies, children's learning journals and photographs of the many activities children are engaged in.
- The inspector took account of the views of the parents through recently written references and those spoken to during the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and other family members living at the childminder's home.

Inspector

Cathryn Wilkinson

Inspection findings

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

The childminder is very knowledgeable about child development. The quality of her teaching is outstanding. Assessment of children's development is extremely effective. This means she knows the children's strengths and weaknesses and can identify any gaps in their learning. This knowledge is used to plan challenging and exciting activities. Children show high levels of imagination. For example, in the outside area, children make a fairy garden. They make wings for tiny dolls so they can 'fly' in the garden. Children show immense pleasure and wonder when they see the garden becomes sparkling with glitter overnight and they make up their own story about this. Children discover caterpillars in the garden. They are amazed as they observe life cycle changes and learn that caterpillars change into moths and butterflies. Children's communication and language skills are constantly promoted. The childminder builds on what children already know through extremely well-placed questions. The childminder enhances the curriculum because she regularly takes children to toddler groups, parks, the library and walks along the river. Children also have fantastic educational opportunities when they visit a centre dedicated to space research.

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

The childminder makes extremely effective use of her home. Children move independently around the dedicated playroom. They play in the home corner, showing care for dolls as they dress them, brush their hair and lay them quietly to 'sleep'. They read books in a cosy book area. They create pictures by gluing leaves, flowers and seeds they have collected and dried. They help prepare their own snack by washing and chopping fruit. Children say they have to take care because knives can be sharp. Children marvel as they cut open unfamiliar fruit. The childminder's child-friendly garden has an excellent range of equipment and resources to inspire children to investigate and develop their skills across all areas of learning. They harvest fruits and vegetables and care for small pets. Children show they have a very close attachment to the childminder because she gives them lots of positive praise. Parents say, 'She makes learning interesting in a way that allows the child to experience the world and enjoy natural wonder in a safe, reassuring environment.'

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

The childminder is passionate and dedicated. She embraces the excellent development and training opportunities available to her and these have a positive impact on her practice. Children's progress is continually tracked to ensure all children reach their potential. Excellent information sharing between parents and other professionals involved with the children is extremely thorough. Parents speak very highly of the children's ongoing learning records, which are enhanced by photographs of their children playing and learning. The childminder carefully evaluates what she does and recognises that there is potential to build further on the support given to parents to help them guide their children's learning at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY306068
Local authority	Leicester City
Inspection number	873062
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	5 May 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2005 and lives in Leicester. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder supports children aged two-, three- and four-year-olds who receive early education funding.

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