

Childminder Report

Inspection date

14 August 2015

Previous inspection date

10 August 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 has an excellent understanding of safeguarding. She uses her extensive knowledge to teach others. She also ensures everyone she works with attends training so they know what to do in the event of concerns about a child. As a result, children's safety is extremely well promoted.
- The childminder has high expectations for all children. She and her assistants use their excellent qualifications to plan varied and exciting experiences for children. Teaching is of a very high quality, so children make excellent progress in their learning.
- The very warm and inviting environment contains interesting resources that children can access for themselves. As a result, they have lots of control over choosing their own learning. This means they gain good skills for independent learning and are highly motivated to join in.
- The childminder is inspirational in her reviews and evaluations of the provision. Her drive and enthusiasm for continual improvement focus on the needs of the children. She effectively uses feedback from children, parents and her assistants to reflect on what works well and where to improve. Any changes required to meet children's needs are quickly identified and they make excellent progress.
- The childminder has extremely strong partnerships with parents and other early years settings. She ensures information about children's development needs is exchanged and shared by all involved with the children. This means children have consistency in their learning opportunities, so they can revisit and practise their skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- maintain the sharp focus on children reviewing their own learning by providing further opportunities for them to record and plan future activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children indoors and in the garden.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents through written comments and questionnaires.
- The inspector spoke with children, the childminder and assistants during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled paperwork including children's records and the self-evaluation form.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.

Inspector

Anita McKelvey

Inspection findings

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

The childminder uses ideas gained from training courses to provide innovative experiences for children. She makes sure she and her assistants use well-focussed assessments for monitoring children's progress so that the experiences meet children's needs extremely well. This means children are very motivated to join in and make excellent progress. The childminder uses various teaching methods for promoting language very successfully, including asking skilled questions, so children learn to express themselves well. Children learn about early mathematics and develop their social skills. They identify themselves in photographs and put them up on the number line to count the number of children present. The childminder involves all children in activities with risks. For example, when using the apple corer to peel the fruit for snack time, she teaches children to use tools safely and provides for their developing physical skills. The childminder makes sure all children take part in the activities. For example, when reading a story she helps each child identify the different characters in the story, making links to children's own experiences.

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

The childminder builds strong attachments with children. She uses contributions from parents to help her get to know the children thoroughly. This means they settle in quickly and are ready to participate. Children learn to share and take turns. Older children support the younger ones to share resources, such as when playing with the sand in trays on the table. They explore what happens when water and ice cubes mix with the sand. The childminder and the children help to prepare snacks to eat. They use knives and other tools to prepare the fruit, developing their physical skills. They discuss what they are doing and why they eat fruits. In this way, children learn about making healthy choices. The childminder regularly exchanges quality information about children's learning with other professionals when visiting local groups and schools. Consequently, children are well prepared for changes and moving on to other settings or school.

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

The childminder uses very effective ways to check what she does. She shares information with other early years settings and is looking to improve her starting relationships by introducing home visits. Because of all these actions, she quickly identifies children's needs and meets them exceptionally well. The childminder prompts children to recall experiences and events through discussions. However, she rightly identifies these discussions could be further enhanced so children record what they do in a way that supports them making choices about future learning activities. The childminder shares her knowledge with her assistants and plans specific training to improve their practice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	100940
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	984923
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	12
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	10 August 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1985. She lives on the outskirts of Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire. She works with a co-childminder and three part-time assistants. The childminder operates from 8am til 5.30pm each day, for 50 weeks of the year. She receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The childminder has a National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) at level 4 in early years and an NVQ at level 5 in management. She works with four others, three of whom have an NVQ at level 3 in early years.

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