

Childminder Report

Inspection date	22 September 2016
Previous inspection date	6 March 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children make very strong progress in learning relative to their starting points. The childminder's very precise and evaluative observations and assessment of children help her to identify and promptly address any gaps in their learning. Planning is extremely effective in supporting children's individual progress.
- Children's behaviour is excellent and they have very high self-esteem. They confidently make decisions about what they want to do, and make extremely good use of the wide variety of well-organised resources. Children develop very strong, affectionate relationships with the childminder, and show through their confident behaviour that they feel extremely emotionally secure.
- The childminder has excellent relationships with parents. She involves them very well in their children's learning from the beginning, gaining very detailed information about their children's abilities and interests. Parents routinely share information about learning activities at home, which the childminder uses very effectively in her assessments.
- The childminder has worked extremely hard since her last inspection to improve her effectiveness. She uses professional networks and online resources extremely effectively to develop her knowledge and skills. This has led her to review and refine how she monitors children's progress, which has resulted in highly effective tracking, assessment and planning for children's future learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for older children to practise their writing skills in different play situations.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder and children engaged in learning activities.
- The inspector talked to the childminder about how she monitors the learning programme and plans for children's individual progress.
- The inspector sampled records the childminder is required to keep, including safeguarding procedures, and assessed her knowledge of how to implement these.
- The inspector talked to the childminder about her self-evaluation and how she prioritises areas to improve.
- The inspector read feedback from parents to take into account their views.

Inspector

Julie Neal

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder rigorously monitors all aspects of the provision through extremely thorough self-evaluation. She prioritises improvements by focusing on what will benefit children the most, and her evaluations of the impact of these on children's learning are excellent. This has led her to introduce a wider range of exciting outdoor activities, such as experimenting with ice and investigating shadows, which children eagerly explore. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder keeps her safeguarding training and knowledge up to date. She has an excellent understanding of Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures and is very clear about how to follow these to help her protect children from harm.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder plans an excellent range of learning activities that challenge children extremely well. For example, baking cakes she supports children really well to learn about numbers, weight and volume as they measure out ingredients. The childminder extends children's knowledge extremely effectively by also making biscuits and scones with them, where children compare different types of flour and the textures of the baked goods. The childminder communicates extremely well, encouraging children to think and build on what they already know. For example, when looking at flowers in a book, she encouraged them to talk about what they learnt when they grew sunflowers. Children eagerly talked about how the flowers' heads turn to face the direction of the sun as it moves through the sky. Overall, the childminder provides an extremely good variety of activities to develop children's literacy, although she sometimes misses opportunities for older children to practise their very good early writing skills further.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children show a very secure understanding of being healthy. For example, during their imaginary play, they made sure the dolls had hats and sun cream on before going outside to prevent being 'sunburnt'. Children enjoy excellent opportunities to be physically active and exercise. For example, they develop an extremely good knowledge of their village and local community as they explore the area during their daily walks. Regular visits to nearby parks help children to be very confident and well-coordinated as they climb and balance on equipment with very good control of their bodies.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children develop extremely good skills that help to prepare them very well for the next stage in their learning, including going to school. For example, they regularly play with other children and experience activities in a larger group, learning to cooperate and consider the needs of others. Children are extremely confident, social and active learners.

Setting details

Unique reference number	132841
Local authority	Bath & NE Somerset
Inspection number	1061362
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	6 March 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1988 and lives in the Weston village area of Bath. She operates her service on Monday to Thursday from 7.15am to 6pm throughout the year. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education for children aged three years.

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