

Inspection date	19 January 2015
Previous inspection date	8 January 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder responds enthusiastically to children's ideas and suggestions, and engages them in ongoing purposeful discussion. This helps to promote their communication and language skills.
- Children form a secure bond with the childminder, which in turn promotes their well-being, sense of belonging and confidence.
- The childminder provides a broad and balanced range of enjoyable activities that truly engage children. As a result, they are curious, inquisitive and keen to learn.
- The childminder shares good levels of information with parents through a variety of appropriate ways, to establish effective practice to and meet children's individual needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always make the best use of visual prompts to promote children's early literacy skills further.
- The childminder misses some opportunities to value and include children's additional language, and promote their counting skills through everyday activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend use of letters, signs, symbols and labelling to enhance children's understanding that print carries meaning
- use everyday routine activities more fully to encourage children to count, and to include and promote children's dual language skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector engaged in discussion with the children and childminder.
- The inspector viewed the premises, toys and equipment.
- The inspector observed interactions between the childminder and children.
- The inspector sampled documentation and children's records.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and older children through written feedback.

Inspector

Jayne Pascoe

Inspection findings

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

The childminder knows children well and provides enjoyable activities to help them learn and develop. Children help themselves to favourite toys, which are stored at child height. This promotes their confidence and independence. The childminder is skilful in teaching. She introduces interesting topics, such as for St Piran's Day celebrations. This extends children's knowledge and understanding of differing cultures and beliefs. She provides activities to challenge children's thinking and extend their language skills. For example, they dissolve jelly cubes and discuss the changes they observe in texture, consistency and aroma. The childminder uses daily routine activities well to promote children's learning, but misses some opportunities to encourage children to count; for example, when separating jelly cubes and adding them to water. Some children speak an additional language, but are not encouraged to use this skill or share it with others. Children participate in toddler group activities, learning to share, take turns and cooperate with others. Overall, the childminder prepares children well for their future learning.

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

The childminder's positive interaction in children's play enhances their enjoyment opportunities for learning. Her home is welcoming and organised well to meet children's individual needs. However, she misses some opportunities to encourage them to develop their early reading skills through use of signs, symbols and letters in their play. The childminder displays photographs of children's creative achievements for all to admire. This increases their sense of belonging and self-worth. Partnerships with parents are effective in helping children learn at home. The childminder sets a good example to children, so they are well behaved. The childminder teaches children the importance of healthy eating, regular exercise and keeping clean. Good links with other early years providers help to prepare children for their move to other settings and school, and contribute to meeting children's needs.

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

The childminder has a good knowledge of the learning and development requirements and how to safeguard children, so children make good progress and learn how to keep safe. The childminder has a secure understanding of the local safeguarding procedures and is confident to follow these if required. She completes daily visual checks of the premises and equipment, and makes a risk assessment of outings. The childminder has addressed the recommendation raised at the last inspection. She has developed effective assessment records to monitor children's progress and provide activities that help them to work towards specific goals. The childminder evaluates her practice effectively and plans to develop the assessment systems further to enhance opportunities for shared learning. She continually improves her teaching, knowledge and skills through relevant training courses.

Setting details

Unique reference number	102293
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	839168
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	8 January 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1992. She lives with her husband in the village of Mabe, on the outskirts of Penryn, in Cornwall. Children use all areas of the childminder's home. There are steps to the front and rear of the property. An enclosed garden is available for outdoor play activities. The childminder supports children who speak English as an additional language. There are currently seven children attending who are in the early years age range. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

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