

Inspection date	2 March 2015
Previous inspection date	23 March 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

- Children respond very positively to the childminder's friendly, caring approach and her gentle humour. This helps children feel safe in her care and effectively promotes their emotional well-being.
- The childminder observes children's play and clearly identifies their next stages of development. She continually monitors children's achievements and supports children's individual learning through a good variety of stimulating play experiences. As a result, children progress very well in their learning.
- The childminder regularly takes children to toddler groups, where children play happily with their friends. This actively promotes their socialisation and early friendships, which prepares them well for their move to other providers and school.
- Children benefit from the positive, friendly relationships the childminder forms with their parents. This helps children settle easily and enjoy their play.
- The childminder regularly completes safeguarding training and has a good awareness of procedures to follow any concerns. This actively promotes children's welfare.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not fully developed ways of using information shared with parents so she can fully promote children's development from the outset.
- The childminder has not fully established effective arrangements for consistently sharing information on children's care and learning with other providers they attend.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make more use of information shared with parents on their child's development to fully support children's learning when they first attend
- strengthen the arrangements for sharing information with other providers children attend to fully promote a continuous approach to their care and learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's interactions as they played and with the childminder.
- The inspector sampled the childminder's operational policies and procedures and required records.
- The inspector took into account the written views of parents.
- The inspector discussed children's development with the childminder.
- The inspector viewed and discussed the childminder's self-evaluation form.

Inspector

Mary Daniel

Inspection findings

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

The childminder plans exciting activities that motivate children's interests. Children eagerly squeezed and rolled the glittery blue play dough. They pressed down hard on the cutters and showed delight at the resulting shape. This actively helped children gain strength in their hands which helps with their later writing skills. The childminder extends children's creativity and interest in the natural world very well. Children enjoyed making bird biscuits and a collage of bird pictures. The childminder encouraged children's language and observation skills when she talked to them about the weather. They said, 'It's a bit rainy' and as they noticed the weather change they said 'Now it's sunny and windy'. Parents note that the childminder has a warm, enthusiastic approach and encourages children to become curious and confident through their play. However, the childminder does not always gather information from parents on children's developmental abilities when they first attend. This means that, although the childminder is planning effectively overall, it takes time to get to know children's abilities and begin planning their progression.

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

The childminder greets children warmly and works closely with parents to help children settle easily. She provides clear, consistent boundaries and praises children often, which actively boosts their confidence and interest in learning. The childminder often takes children to a local wildlife country park, where they have fun running, climbing and splashing in puddles. Children smiled happily as they followed the actions to some favourite songs and touched their head, shoulders, knees and toes. The childminder provided colourful child sized utensils and encouraged children to try chopping up their snack food of strawberries and bananas. Children enjoyed using the foamy soap to wash their hands and found their individual towels to dry them. As a result, the childminder actively promotes children's good health, physical well-being and self-care skills very well.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She is qualified and experienced and continually reflects on her practice. She attends ongoing training opportunities on different aspects of children's learning. Consequently, she demonstrates a clear awareness of her childminding responsibilities and makes continual improvements. The childminder understands the importance of liaising with other providers children attend and actively initiates this contact. However, she does not always promptly follow up any lack of response from these providers. Therefore, she is not fully promoting continuity in children's care and learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY383184
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1005059
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	23 March 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Oldford, Somerset. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3. She receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged three and four years.

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