

Inspection date

5 March 2015

Previous inspection date

17 December 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 organises a good range of planned activities for children, which supports their learning well.
- Children are developing good communication and language skills. They are articulate and confident during their play and interactions with the childminder.
- The childminder ensures robust safeguarding policies and procedures are effectively implemented. As a result, children are well protected and safe.
- The childminder develops positive relationships with the children. This helps them to feel safe and form strong attachments. Consequently, children are emotionally secure and the childminder effectively supports their well-being.
- The childminder is reflective. She identifies her strengths and weaknesses and makes plans to improve her already good practice to ensure the best outcomes for children.
- Partnerships with parents and other providers are well established. Parents and the childminder work together very well to meet all children's needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always use questioning well to extend children's thinking skills and learning further.
- Children do not always help the childminder to prepare their snacks so that they become more independent at meal times.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of questioning to extend children's thinking and learning, and build on what they already know
- include children in the preparation of mealtimes to develop their independence.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed interactions between the childminder and children.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed the childminder's documentation including policies, qualification certificates, children's learning records and communication books with other settings.
- The inspector reviewed the childminder's self-evaluation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through their written comments.

Inspector

Katherine Lamb

Inspection findings

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

The childminder is actively involved in children's play and uses good teaching methods. This ensures children make good progress. The childminder effectively promotes children's communication and language skills by talking to them as they play. She uses clear, simple words and short sentences, and effectively models language for the younger children. As a result, children develop a good vocabulary because the childminder promotes their early conversational skills. However, the childminder does not always question children during their discussions to extend their thinking skills further and build on what they already know. Children fully engage in activities and the childminder supports them well. They enjoy using play dough and exploring sand, glitter and water. Records of children's learning show how they make progress in key areas of learning. Parents share information about children's learning at home, supporting a collaborative approach to helping children to develop key skills for future learning.

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

The childminder regularly reviews potential risks to children and makes sure her home is safe and secure, creating a home-from-home environment for them. Children have positive relationships with the childminder; her praise and encouragement support their self-esteem and confidence. The childminder promotes children's understanding of healthy lifestyles by helping them to choose healthy snacks. However, she does not include the children in helping to prepare their snack and develop their independence further. Children benefit from regular trips to toddler groups or play dates with other local childminders, which allow them to socialise and develop the skills they will need for their eventual move on to school.

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

The childminder has a comprehensive knowledge of how to promote children's learning and development, and how to keep children safe. She shares good practice with other childminders and accesses training to improve her knowledge. This has allowed her to address previous recommendations successfully and use her skills to deliver good quality provision for children and their parents. Effective planning and assessment mean children enjoy a high standard of care and learning that promote their well-being and development. The childminder evaluates her practice and seeks the views of children and parents to ensure her provision effectively meets their needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	104742
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	835715
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	13
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	17 December 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1992. She lives in Bideford in North Devon with her husband.

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