

<b>Inspection date</b>	13 March 2015
Previous inspection date	19 October 2011

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Children quickly settle because the childminder works closely with their parents. This means she has a full understanding of each child's needs and abilities when they start, which she meets very well. As a result, children are happy and content, with good self-esteem.
- In addition to establishing starting points with parents, the childminder completes an 'all about me' chart with children. This gives her the child's view of their abilities and likes and dislikes, and enables her to plan activities of interest from the outset.
- Children make good progress in learning, relative to their starting points. The childminder uses her good observations well to assess each child's progress and identify their next steps in learning. She discusses these with parents, whose contribution to their children's learning is actively encouraged.
- The childminder understands how to safeguard children, and her child protection knowledge is good. She undertakes regular training to keep this up to date.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- There are fewer opportunities for children to express themselves through activities such as role play, dance and self-directed creative play.
- The childminder does not encourage parents' views and suggestions in her good self-evaluation to help her identify and prioritise areas to develop.

## **What the setting needs to do to improve further**

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

- develop the variety of activities that encourage children to express their thoughts and ideas creatively in their self-directed play
- extend self-evaluation to include parents' involvement.

### **Inspection activities**

- The inspector observed the childminder and children engaged in activities.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and children.
- The inspector reviewed documentation relating to children's welfare, including safeguarding and complaints procedures.
- The inspector reviewed how the childminder monitors children's progress in learning.

### **Inspector**

Julie Neal

## Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is good. The childminder has a thorough understanding of how to promote children's learning in all areas. She plans well to make sure children have a good variety of learning experiences. The childminder encourages children's developing communication and language very well. For example, children were making cards for special family members and making flowers to stick on these. The childminder related these to the bulbs they have recently planted and children's plans to plant more flower seeds. Children developed this into a lively discussion about the worms and insects they had seen in the garden. The childminder extended this further by looking at books with children about insects, using age-appropriate reference books as well as stories. Children enjoy their art and craft activities; however, opportunities do not always encourage them to be more creative. The childminder makes good use of children's interests to develop their understanding of mathematics. For example, children keen to write their names counted the number of letters in them and compared these to their friends' and families' names. They ordered vehicles by size and considered how many more cars than trucks would fit in the parking garage.

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

Children have very good relationships with the childminder. They are well behaved and confident. The childminder promotes children's social confidence by linking up with other childminders regularly. This allows children the opportunity to mix with a larger group of children who are of similar ages and helps them to prepare for moving on to pre-school. Children show a good understanding of safety. For example, while using toy cars and a road mat, they identified safe crossing places and related these to where they cross the road when out for walks. The childminder makes good use of the garden so children enjoy being physically active, for example, digging and planting flowers and vegetables, and having 'bug hunts'. Children's emotional security prepares them well for future learning.

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

Good self-evaluation enables the childminder to promote positive outcomes for children. She ensures her knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage remains current and up to date, especially when identifying training, such as safeguarding. She links with other early years providers to share good practice and ideas. The childminder monitors the learning and development programme for children well to make sure activities provide suitable challenge. This allows her to identify and address any potential gaps in their learning. The childminder does not encourage parents' involvement in sharing their thoughts for areas to improve.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	142018
<b>Local authority</b>	Somerset
<b>Inspection number</b>	841514
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childminder
<b>Registration category</b>	Childminder
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	6
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	1
<b>Name of provider</b>	
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	19 October 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	

The childminder registered in 1999. She lives in Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The childminder also cares for older children before and after school.

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