

Inspection date

20 April 2015

Previous inspection date

1 December 2010

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 her premises well both inside and outside, which enables children to initiate their learning. The childminder follows children's lead and plans activities around their interests. This motivates children to learn and, as a result, they all make good progress in their learning and development.
- The childminder provides effective support for children's key areas of development. This prepares children well for their next stage of learning and eventual move to school.
- The childminder successfully promotes children's emotional well-being through warm and caring relationships. She seeks good information from parents, which enables her to meet children's physical needs well.
- The childminder makes effective use of self-evaluation to identify her professional development plan. She is committed to ongoing training and is currently working towards an early years qualification. This is helping her to look for ways to keep improving outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always support children in noticing what effect their actions have on objects. For example, she did not comment on how children tried to make a toy windmill spin by blowing and using their hands.
- The childminder is using a new system to record children's development, which does not currently include information for parents to support their children's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- pose more challenging questions to extend children's awareness of cause and effect
- review the new assessment system to provide greater information for parents on children's next stages of development to support learning at home further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector took account of the childminder's self-evaluation and parents' written feedback left for the inspection.
- The inspector checked safeguarding information and the premises.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies and procedures, and children's development records.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder at convenient times during the inspection.

Inspector

Elaine Douglas

Inspection findings

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

The childminder understands how to plan for children's next stages of learning because she makes regular observations. She uses children's interests to plan, using real experiences to extend their understanding. For example, noticing children's interest in butterflies, she bought a butterfly farm so children could watch the life cycle of caterpillars. Children make independent choices about what they want to play with, providing them with good skills for their future. In addition, they develop effective communication skills because the childminder interacts well with them. For example, she offered young children two simple choices using visual aids with words. This gave context to the meaning and increased their vocabulary as they used words to make their choice. Children learn how things work and solve problems as they explore. However, the childminder sometimes misses the opportunity to promote children's awareness of cause and effect.

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

Children are happy and confident, demonstrating high self-esteem. The childminder supports children's independence well. For example, she recognised signs that children wanted to go outdoors. By asking the children what they need to do, they found and put on their shoes. Children enjoy being outside and are eager to see the childminder's rabbit and chickens. The childminder organises many outings to extend children's learning, their social skills and their awareness of their own community. The childminder gives appropriate priority to children's health and safety. She carries out successful risk assessments and teaches children good practices to keep healthy. As a result, children learn safe behaviour, drink plenty of water and follow hygienic procedures.

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

The childminder attends regular child protection training. As a result, she has a strong knowledge of the procedures to follow should she have a concern that a child may be at risk. Acting on the recommendation raised at her last inspection, all required safeguarding documentation is in place. The childminder is currently forging positive relationships with other early years providers as she has children starting pre-school. This will enable them to work together consistently to meet children's needs. The childminder establishes positive partnerships with parents, which ensures a successful exchange of information overall. She provides a regular newsletter, keeping parents up to date with any changes, for example, her recently updated policies and procedures. The childminder is implementing a new system to monitor and assess children's development, which will give parents more access. However, the childminder has not provided information on children's next stages of development so that parents can continue the learning at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY349056
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	828564
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	1 December 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2007. She lives in Galmington, Taunton, Somerset. The childminder provides care every weekday, including before and after school. She walks or drives to collect and drop off children at local schools. The childminder is working towards an early years qualification at level 3.

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