

Childminder Report

Inspection date

13 May 2015

Previous inspection date

9 February 2011

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		Outstanding	1
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 knows the children well. She makes good use of her observations and assessments to plan activities which meet children's individual needs and interests. As a result, children make good progress in all areas of learning.
- The childminder shares extremely warm and close relationships with the children. She provides highly consistent and clear boundaries, which helps children to develop an excellent understanding of how they should behave. As a result, they are very kind to one another, develop very positive relationships and their behaviour is exemplary.
- To address recommendations raised at the last inspection, the childminder has established strong partnerships with parents and staff at other settings. She regularly exchanges information so that she understands children's individual needs well. This benefits children's ongoing care and education.
- The childminder has a good understanding of her responsibilities to keep children safe. She is able to recognise the signs and symptoms that may be a cause for concern and is clear on the reporting procedure to follow in her safeguarding policy.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The inside environment is rich with words and numbers. However, the childminder does not always make full use of labelling outside, to promote children's recognition and use of words and numbers in their play.
- The childminder uses pictures, resources and signing with the children when singing songs. However, she does not use sign language in other activities and during daily routines with the children, to promote their communication skills and understanding further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more signs, symbols, letters and numbers in the outside environment for children to use and become more familiar with words and numbers
- use sign language more consistently during routines and activities to extend children's communication and understanding.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's learning records, self-evaluations and policies.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, co-childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents from written comments.

Inspector

Michelle Tuck

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 knows the children well and follows their interests to provide activities, which effectively promote their learning. Children have different opportunities to practise their writing skills, and make marks and patterns. The childminder engages the children well in conversation as they explore and investigate outside. She provided them with resources, such as magnifying glasses, to observe the spiders and talked about where the insects live and what they do. This supports children's understanding of the world well. The childminder skilfully introduces mathematical language into daily routines and activities. For example, children count the number of boys and girls present, confidently identifying which group has more and which one has less. The childminder works well in partnership with parents, especially to promote children's independence and self-care skills. This prepares children well for their next stage in learning and their move to school.

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

The childminder shares very warm responses with the children and incredibly strong attachments are highly evident. The childminder is extremely skilled at helping children to manage their behaviour and make relationships. As a result, children are exceptionally good at sharing, taking turns and caring for one another. This means children are very sensitive and have a very high regard towards others. The childminder teaches the children about the importance of a healthy lifestyle extremely well. They benefit greatly from excellent outdoor learning opportunities and enjoy taking part in activities, which promote their physical skills very well. They enjoy planting and growing fruits and vegetables in the garden, which helps them to learn about the natural environment.

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

The childminder gives children's safety the highest priority, completing risk assessments and taking secure action to minimise hazards. The childminder effectively monitors the educational programmes and tracks children's progress to enable her to plan focused activities to address any gaps, which has a positive impact on children's progress. The childminder has a positive attitude to her professional development. She uses self-evaluation well to identify her strengths and areas for development, which was a weakness raised at the last inspection. Effective self-evaluation has allowed the childminder to excel in how she promotes children's well-being. The childminder uses new knowledge and skills gained from training well, for example, to provide children with fun physical activities using beanbags to promote balance and coordination. Parents are very happy and comment how their children are constantly learning and growing in confidence with the childminder.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY413283
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	832071
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	9 February 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2010. She lives in South Cadbury, Somerset. She works jointly with another childminder at the same premises. The childminding service operates each weekday, throughout the year, with the exception of Christmas and bank holidays. The childminder holds a Level 3 qualification in early years, and has experience of working in children's day care.

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