

Childminder Report

Inspection date

4 August 2015

Previous inspection date

16 June 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 and her assistant use frequent praise and encouragement, and children behave very well. They learn to share and take turns, and to care for younger children.
- The childminder has positive relationships with the parents and shares a good range of information about her childminding service. She promotes continuity of care by keeping them well informed about their children's routines and development. Parents comment that the childminder is 'flexible in her approach' and offers a 'home from home environment'.
- The childminder and her assistant enjoy the company of the children who benefit from the way they join in enthusiastically with activities and games.
- The childminder is reflective in her practice; she is open to new ideas and makes changes to continually improve outcomes for children.
- The childminder demonstrates a natural rapport with children. She shows an excellent understanding of each child's individual needs. This empathetic approach ensures that children feel very secure and safe with the childminder and her family.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some resources are not organised to enable children to access them easily or to make choices.
- Books are not always easily available for children to handle or to enjoy with adults.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- create an attractive area where children and adults can enjoy books together
- improve the organisation of resources to support children in making choices.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's learning records, planning documentation, the self-evaluation form and a selection of policies and children's records.
- The inspector took account of the views of four parents through letters and references seen on the day.
- The inspector observed the childminder and her assistant interacting with the children.

Inspector

Alison Kaplonek

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. As a result of the sensitive support they receive from the childminder, children are fully engaged in their learning and develop good concentration skills. The childminder and her assistant both interact well with children, stimulating all areas of their learning. They encourage children to count and talk about shape, size and colours during activities, to help them learn about early mathematics. They provide opportunities for children to develop their physical skills as they play in the garden or visit the local park. The childminder talks to parents before their children start and gains information about children's routines and current levels of development. She makes good quality observations and gets to know children well. A regular exchange of information about children's achievements and frequent discussions with parents contributes to children's assessments and supports their learning at home. This enables the childminder to set targets for each child and monitor their development to make sure that they maintain good progress.

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

The childminder's home is safe and welcoming. Children learn about the importance of good hygiene and safety practices through well-established routines. They learn to play together and form good friendships. A good range of different resources and activities are available each day. Children are confident and develop positive attitudes to others as they play with resources to encourage learning about differences. They benefit from trips to local groups where they develop their social skills and confidence. These experiences prepare them for the next step in their learning, such as starting at pre-school or school.

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

The childminder has a secure knowledge of how to keep children safe. She and her assistant have attended training in child protection and implement her safeguarding policy in line with local guidance. This ensures that they both know what steps to take if there are any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder reviews risks in the environment and involves children in keeping the home safe and tidy. The childminder works with her assistant to implement good quality systems to plan and review their implementation of the learning and development requirements to ensure that children are making good progress. The childminder has successful systems in place to evaluate what is working and what needs to improve. She improves her knowledge base by attending relevant training and ensures that her assistant is also well trained. Good partnerships with parents and other professionals and settings provide consistency in care and learning for all children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	142602
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	841540
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	16 June 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1989. She lives with her husband who is her assistant and adult daughter in the town of Somerton, Somerset. The family has two pet dogs that have their own separate area within the house and a tortoise that is kept in the garden.

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