

Childminder Report

Inspection date

5 August 2015

Previous inspection date

10 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 has a good understanding of how children learn and develop. She knows children well and provides a broad and balanced range of enjoyable activities based on their individual preferences, interests and abilities.
- Children form strong attachments to the childminder, which promotes their well-being. As a result, children are happy, confident and independent as they select favourite toys and help to prepare snacks.
- The childminder keeps an accurate written assessment of each child's progress, which she shares with parents to support home learning. This helps her to identify gaps in children's learning and provide activities that help to close them.
- The childminder has high expectations of children and her positive and skilful interactions help to extend their learning further. As a result, children make good progress in relation to their starting points.
- The childminder has recently completed multi-agency safeguarding training. She is confident to follow the local child protection procedures if required. In addition, she has completed language development and food safety training. This has a positive impact on how she promotes children's communication skills and their understanding of healthy eating.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always liaise effectively with other settings that children attend to promote shared learning.
- The childminder does not always extend opportunities for children to practise their early writing skills during play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen methods to share information with the other settings that children attend, to promote complementary learning experiences for children
- increase the opportunities for children to practise their early writing skills during their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector engaged in discussions with children, parents and the childminder.
- The inspector viewed the premises, toys and equipment.
- The inspector observed interactions between the childminder and children.
- The inspector sampled documentation and children's records.
- The inspector and childminder undertook a joint observation of an activity.

Inspector

Jayne Pascoe

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 and children have recently visited the aquarium and are keen to make their own fish tank using pebbles, shells, water, and toy sea creatures. The childminder promotes children's language skills well, as they discuss their recent outing. They learn to solve problems, as they agree the order in which they put all the items into the tank, to avoid the water overflowing. The childminder extends this activity further through providing toy fishing nets and rods, which helps children to develop their hand-eye coordination. Children share, take turns and cooperate well to maintain harmonious and orderly play. The childminder teaches children to keep themselves safe; for example, she explains why it is important to be careful when playing with water, as it can create a slippery floor. These key skills help prepare children well for future learning and their move on to school.

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

Children follow the positive example set by the childminder and are kind, helpful and well behaved. They learn to respect difference and diversity through using a good range of books and toys. The childminder teaches children how to identify and manage everyday risks as they play, and encourages them to tidy away toys after use to avoid trips and falls. Children follow effective health and hygiene routines, and learn to manage their personal care needs in relation to their age and ability. The childminder promotes healthy eating and provides good opportunities for children to develop their physical skills when they play in the garden, on the beach and in the park. The childminder's home is well organised and welcoming.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She ensures that suitability checks are in place for all adults living and working on the premises. The childminder ensures her assistant has the key skills to meet children's care and learning needs, to promote their well-being and developmental needs. Children participate in regular emergency evacuation procedures to develop their confidence and familiarity. Since the last inspection, the childminder has improved planning to cover all areas of learning, and enhanced children's health and safety through improved hygiene procedures and the effective risk assessment for outings. The childminder evaluates her practice effectively to identify areas for future improvement. This currently includes reviewing all policies and procedures, and for herself and her assistant to update their paediatric first-aid training before it expires. Positive partnerships with parents and other agencies contribute to meeting children's needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	103132
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	839230
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	10 December 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2000. She lives with her husband, who is also her assistant, and their two adult children in St Stephens, near St Austell, Cornwall. The childminder provides full day care for children all year round.

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