

Childminder Report

Inspection date

4 August 2015

Previous inspection date

10 March 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		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 plans an exciting range of activities, such as making puppets and using them to tell stories. She ensures she covers all areas of children's development so that they all make good progress.
- Parents comment positively on the quality of care and the opportunities children have for outdoor learning. The childminder plans many outings to provide children with real experiences and they become knowledgeable about farm life.
- The childminder organises her premises well, providing a welcoming environment where children are confident to explore and initiate their learning. The childminder works well with her co-minder to enable children to make full use of all areas.
- Children develop strong self-esteem and secure emotional attachments to the childminder. They quickly settle and form positive relationships with each other.
- The childminder uses her self-evaluation, which includes parents' surveys and her contact with other childminders, to review her practice well. This ensures she identifies her training needs and looks for even better ways of working.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder misses opportunities to support children in noticing their similarities and develop their positive attitude to people's differences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- help children to notice their similarities and differences to promote their understanding of diversity and the world further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at convenient times and carried out a joint observation.
- The inspector spoke to parents, took account of their written feedback and the childminder's parents' survey and self-evaluation.
- The inspector checked safeguarding information and the premises.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies and procedures, children's development records and planning.

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 provides good quality teaching to promote children's learning and development. She poses good questions so that children think about and describe how to resolve problems they encounter. For example, at the inspection, children commented that the sand was too dry to make castles and that they needed to add water. The childminder uses impromptu situations well to promote children's mathematical development, such as noticing numbers and shapes in the environment. She makes regular observations and uses these to identify children's individual next steps. Parents receive constant feedback on their children's progress, which enables them to support learning at home. Young children enjoy exploring the environment and all children develop firm foundations in their key areas of development. This prepares them well for their next stages or school.

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

The childminder helps children to manage their behaviour, share and resolve conflicts. She encourages children to celebrate each other's achievements and this promotes their self-esteem and sense of belonging. Parents comment positively on how the childminder provides a nurturing environment, where children gain confidence and get excited about attending. The childminder follows babies' routines according to their individual needs, which promotes their physical and emotional well-being. Children demonstrate good practices to keep healthy, such as washing their hands before helping to prepare snack and by drinking plenty of water. Children are confidently independent and enjoy age-appropriate responsibilities, such as cleaning the tables and setting them for lunch. Following the last inspection, all children now take part in practising the emergency evacuation procedures to know how to help with their own safety.

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

The childminder understands her responsibilities and monitors children's progress to identify any gaps and plan to narrow them. She implements good procedures to protect children's welfare, such as having a first aid kit available in all areas and on outings. The childminder supervises children well and carries out risk assessments to keep children safe. She has a strong understanding of the safeguarding procedures to follow to protect children from harm. The childminder attends regular training to keep her knowledge of child development and the regulations up to date, as well as implementing new ideas. For example, she now uses more resources, such as buckets and sticks, for children to make sounds and express their creativity. Following the last inspection, the childminder uses her communication book to share information with other early years providers children attend. This helps her to have a consistent approach to children's development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY244819
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	837162
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	10 March 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2002. She lives on a working farm in the village of Middle Chinnock, located between Yeovil and Crewkerne, Somerset. The childminder works with another registered childminder from dedicated premises on the farm. They provide care for 49 weeks a year, including before and after school. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3. She receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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