

Childminder Report

Inspection date

6 August 2015

Previous inspection date

19 May 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

- Children form strong friendships with each other. They learn to share, take turns and respect differences. They settle well in the childminder's home as they feel secure with her. She understands and values their individual needs well.
- Children have many opportunities to make choices in their play. They can choose resources easily by themselves or point to photographs of toys stored in other areas of the house. This helps them to become increasingly independent in their learning.
- The childminder regularly attends child protection training and reviews her safeguarding policies and procedures. She has a very secure understanding of signs that may give cause for concern. She knows the steps to take if she has a concern, which helps her to keep children safe.
- The childminder effectively monitors children's progress and development. This helps her to plan and provide activities that interest children. This means she is able to support them in making good progress in all areas of their learning.
- The childminder follows effective practices to help keep children safe and healthy. She also teaches children how to stay safe, for example, by involving them in practising the emergency evacuation procedure.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always link directly with other early years settings children attend, to enable effective information sharing to further promote consistency.
- There are not enough examples of writing within the play areas to help children to link letters to sounds and help them to recognise familiar words and signs to extend their literacy skills fully.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend links with other early years settings that children also attend, to further promote consistency when supporting their learning and development
- provide more opportunities to help children to link letters to sounds and help them to recognise familiar words and signs.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and a sample of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the childminder's self-evaluation and written feedback from parents.

Inspector

Samantha Powis

Inspection findings

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

Children are busy and enjoy their time with the childminder. She considers their individual needs well and provides a wide range of toys and activities to support them. For example, to increase children's physical skills she provides a sound mat. This makes sounds and lights up as children walk across it. The children repeat their actions over and over again, giggling and smiling as they hear the sounds. This helps them to gain control, strength and balance as they have fun. The childminder is fully involved as children play. She supports their language development and communication skills well during their play. She responds to the sounds they make and engages them in early conversation as they use the toy telephones. She repeats words back to them, increasing their vocabulary. The childminder adapts activities well to maintain children's interest; for example, by changing a story time into a singing session. The childminder keeps records of her observations of children's progress and their next steps. She shares these with parents, keeping them fully involved in children's learning and enabling them to support children's learning at home.

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

Children are confident and happy in the childminder's care. They see photographs of themselves on table mats and wall displays, which gives them a strong sense of belonging. Older children learn to be sensitive to the needs of younger children. For example, at story time, younger children like to sit on other children's laps to listen to the story. This demonstrates the good friendships they develop. The childminder is fully aware of children's health and dietary needs, and adapts her provision so that all children are fully included; for example, by making healthy cakes using ingredients that all children can enjoy. Risk assessments are used effectively to help the childminder to keep children safe. Children respond positively to the childminder's reminders about their behaviour, as they understand the consistent boundaries she sets. The childminder takes children to local activity groups; this supports their social skills as they learn to play alongside others. This, along with daily outings to parks and play areas, provides children with good opportunities to develop physical skills and enjoy a healthy lifestyle.

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

The childminder has a good awareness of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She works closely with other childminders and attends training sessions. This helps her to improve her practice and the outcomes for children. For example, recent training on children's learning styles is used to help plan more effectively for children's needs. The childminder has improved some aspects of her provision since her last inspection, but arrangements for sharing information with other providers have been less successful.

Setting details

Unique reference number	142281
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	841524
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	19 May 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2001. She lives in the town of Frome, Somerset. The childminder provides care from 8am to 6pm on weekdays throughout the year. The childminder accepts government funding for free nursery education for children aged two, three and four years old.

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