

Childminder Report

Inspection date

6 August 2015

Previous inspection date

10 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		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 enables children to initiate their learning and she follows their lead, which motivates them to learn. She uses good teaching strategies, which means that, overall, children make good progress in their learning and development.
- Children are extremely happy, settled and confident in the childminder's home. This is because she meets their physical and emotional needs extremely well. Children develop exceptional emotional attachments. This has a significant impact on their well-being, enabling children to learn effectively.
- The childminder organises her premises extremely well, indoors and outdoors. She makes excellent use of the extensive resources, which are at low-level and labelled. This enables children to make choices and become independent learners.
- The childminder has gained an early years qualification, developing her understanding of child development. This has a positive impact on the quality of her teaching. She continues to update her knowledge through regular training and uses her self-evaluation well to look for even better ways of working.
- The childminder works effectively with parents and outside agencies to support children's individual needs. She implements recommendations from other professionals to help her narrow gaps in children's development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder sometimes misses opportunities to challenge the older children in understanding that quantities change when they add or take away something.
- The childminder does not make full use of children's play to help them link sounds and initial letters of words.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of activities to challenge older children in understanding how to add and subtract single-digit numbers to promote their mathematical development further
- support older children in developing their early reading skills so they begin to link sounds and letters at the beginning of words.

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 took account of the childminder's self-evaluation and written feedback from parents.
- The inspector checked safeguarding information and the areas children use.
- 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 has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She plans a good range of activities and, overall, she knows how to promote children's learning to prepare them well for school and continued learning. The childminder role models correct speech and uses new vocabulary to promote children's language skills well. Through training, she provides exciting ways for children to enjoy music. Children make their own instruments with everyday objects and link songs to the weather, for example. The childminder helps children notice changes in the natural environment, such as grey clouds and spots of rain on the ground. This prompts them to think of ways to shelter, such as using the tent, enabling children to make links across their learning.

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

The childminder gives children's health and safety the highest priority. She is an excellent role model to help children gain outstanding practices. For example, she very skilfully supports children in thinking of other's feelings exceptionally well so they learn to manage their own behaviour. Children decide when they want a healthy snack and know to wash their hands and use their own towel. The childminder has made highly effective changes to her premises to provide children with an environment that successfully promotes their learning. The new covered veranda means children use the outdoors imaginatively all year in all weathers. As a result, they confidently use resources from the extensive range. For example, at the inspection, they explored the contents of a doctor's bag. The game was long-lasting, promoting children's role play, imagination and language skills particularly well because they had chosen where they preferred to play.

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

The childminder works well with her assistant, ensuring her suitability and providing effective supervision so that she fully understands her responsibilities. Following the last inspection, the childminder has improved her systems for monitoring children's progress. She is currently implementing an online system that provides parents with improved access. In addition, she has a better system for recording children's progress at age two that enables her to identify areas for support more effectively. The childminder photographs and records children's progress so parents know what their children are achieving and how she will support them next. She requests parents' contributions of what they know about their children to help with her planning. Parents and carers comment very positively on the childminder's practice and her nurturing environment, where their children are happy and safe. The childminder keeps her knowledge of child protection up to date so she knows what to do if a child is at risk of harm.

Setting details

Unique reference number	141924
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	841510
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 June 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1993. She lives in Bridgwater, Somerset. The childminder provides care Monday to Thursday for 48 weeks a year, including before and after school. The childminder holds an early years qualification and receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The childminder works with an assistant.

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Piccadilly Gate
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M1 2WD

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