

Childminder Report

Inspection date

24 August 2015

Previous inspection date

2 November 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 has a wide range of resources that cover all areas of learning. She uses these well, along with her interaction, to support children's learning experiences.
- The childminder has a good understanding of the welfare requirements and follows practices that keep children safe. She uses thorough risk assessments for her home and outings, and safeguarding procedures, to help her protect children from harm.
- The childminder updates her knowledge and skills by frequently attending relevant training courses, so that children benefit from her fresh ideas and improved practice. For example, following an outdoor learning course, she now provides children with opportunities to make picture frames using natural resources.
- The childminder has positive relationships with the children, who benefit from secure attachments, and thrive in the trusting and nurturing environment she provides.
- The childminder monitors children's progress regularly to ensure they make good progress towards the next stage in their learning, including moving on to school.
- The childminder shares information with parents and keeps them informed of their children's development, so that children benefit from a consistent approach.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the childminder knows what the children need to help them move on in their development, she does not always plan specific activities that consistently focus sharply on their next steps.
- The childminder misses opportunities to extend children's learning about eating a healthy diet, and how this contributes towards leading a healthy lifestyle.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the planning process to focus more sharply on specific activities that concentrate on children's next steps in learning, and help them to make rapid progress
- increase children's understanding of how a healthy diet contributes towards their good health.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed interactions between children and the childminder.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector gained written views from parents about the childminder and her provision.
- The inspector checked the qualifications and suitability of the childminder.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including policies and procedures, and a sample of children's assessment records.

Inspector

Joanne Steward

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 promotes children's language and imagination skills well. She encourages their role-play, based around children's interests, such as playing 'doctors'. This helps children relive past experiences and enables them to talk about real-life situations. The childminder introduces new words to extend children's vocabulary, such as thermometer and temperature. This means children understand what the items are and why they use them. The childminder teaches children about how the body works, and children use a real stethoscope to listen to their heart beating. The childminder has addressed the previous recommendation from her last inspection well. An increase in technology resources helps children to understand how things work and how to retrieve information safely using the internet, for example, through using age-appropriate games and electronic toys.

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

The childminder provides a welcoming and stimulating environment. Children select resources independently, which are in labelled boxes and at child height. This encourages them to follow their own ideas and extend their play. Children also access their own cups and bowls for meal times, promoting their self-esteem and confidence. The childminder uses rigorous welfare processes to help her meet children's needs. The childminder has positive relationships with the children, meaning they feel safe and secure. She is a good role model and teaches children to manage their personal needs and behaviour well. The childminder follows positive routines with children and teaches them how to prevent the spread of infection through regular handwashing.

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

The childminder carries out frequent observations in order to help her monitor children's development and interests, and identify their next steps. The childminder has good relationships with parents. She regularly shares children's progress, and works with them to support specific areas of children's learning, such as early writing skills, to prepare children for moving on to school. Parents praise the quality of the childminder's care. Links with other agencies are well established. The childminder shares children's progress with other settings children attend to promote a consistent approach. The childminder keeps her safeguarding knowledge up to date through attending training and updating her welfare procedures. The childminder reviews her provision well and is aware of her strengths and areas to develop. This helps her to maintain good levels of practice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	117358
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	840115
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	1
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	2 November 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1999 and lives in Plympton within the city of Plymouth. The childminder operates Monday to Friday from 7am to 6pm.

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