Childminder Report



Inspection date	10 September 2015
Previous inspection date	21 April 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder follows excellent safeguarding procedures and ensures all her assistants receive child protection training. As a result, they implement highly effective actions to protect children who may be at risk of harm. The childminder keeps Ofsted informed of any significant events and takes highly effective action to minimise risks to children.
- The childminder's excellent partnerships with parents, other early years professionals and outside agencies have a significant impact on children's learning and well-being. The childminder provides a fully inclusive environment. This enables disabled children, those with special educational needs and those learning English as an additional language to meet their full potential.
- Children develop outstanding attachments to the childminder and her assistants. They settle in the childminder's home extremely quickly and gain impressive confidence. This supports them exceptionally well in moving on to nursery or school.
- The childminder provides skilful support for children's key areas of development. She listens and responds extremely well to children, providing an excellent role model for communication skills. Children are highly independent and their behaviour is exemplary.
- The childminder consistently supervises her assistants to ensure the quality of their practice is of the highest standards. Through regular support and constant feedback, she helps them to develop their skills and gain qualifications. As a result, they work extremely well as a team to meet children's individual needs.
- The childminder accurately monitors children's development. She regularly observes children and uses her assessments to identify any gaps, children's next stages of learning and plans extremely well for each child. As a result, children make rapid progress.

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What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

extend older children's mathematical skills further to help them have an even greater understanding of quantity.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and her assistants, and carried out a joint observation.
- The inspector took account of written feedback from parents and other professionals, as well as the childminder's 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

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective as the childminder is fully aware of the procedures to follow in the event of concerns. Parents are exceptionally positive about the way she runs her provision and involves them in their children's learning and care. Through meticulous records, the childminder knows exactly how children are progressing. This ensures she acts quickly to work closely with parents and outside agencies, so that children receive additional professional support. At the inspection, parents, representatives of agencies, schools and other early years providers left exceptionally positive feedback on the childminder's partnership working. Through regular self-evaluation and research, the childminder continually reviews her practice. As a result, she has very high standards and drives ongoing improvements. For example, she is currently implementing more scientific experiments with children and focusing on how activities benefit children aged two years.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder and her assistants promote children's learning and development exceptionally well through providing exciting activities that motivate them to learn. For example, at the inspection children were eager to experiment with bubbles. They noticed colours made by the sun and likened this to a rainbow. Adults demonstrate how to use equipment and children persevere with new skills. The childminder uses visual aids and signs to help children of all abilities to communicate. Children learn about volume as they play with water and link sounds and letters as they find their name. Occasionally, the childminder's assistants miss the opportunity to reinforce children's understanding of matching numbers with quantity.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder gets to know children extremely well from before they start at her setting. She shares this information with her assistants so that they can all promote children's physical and emotional well-being. Children with special educational needs thoroughly enjoy their time with the childminder because they have a full and active role in all activities. Children learn excellent practices to keep themselves safe and healthy. Older children help with risk assessments. For example, on an outing to a field they made flags and created a boundary for them to play in. The childminder plans experiences for children and parents to take part in together. These include community activities, where children gain an exceptional awareness of valuing people's differences.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

The childminder makes excellent use of funding to improve children's outcomes and narrow any gaps in their development. Overall, children make outstanding progress, preparing them well for school. They learn to be independent and are excellent communicators and enthusiastic learners.

Setting details

Unique reference number 142057

Local authority Somerset

Inspection number 825781

Type of provision Childminder

Day care type Childminder

Age range of children 0 - 8

Total number of places 12

Number of children on roll 22

Name of provider

Date of previous inspection 21 April 2009

Telephone number

The childminder registered in 1990. She lives in Axbridge, Somerset. The childminder employs four assistants. She has an early years qualification at level 3 and receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The childminder offers care each weekday during term time only, including before and after school.

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