

Childminder Report

Inspection date

22 September 2015

Previous inspection date

11 February 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children settle quickly and are confident in the childminder's home. She ensures an inclusive environment where they learn to respect each other's opinions. This means that children feel valued.
- The childminder is very responsive to children initiating their learning. She follows their lead and provides additional resources to take their ideas further. This motivates children to learn and concentrate.
- The childminder has good systems to monitor children's development, which enables her to know the children well and seek any additional support. As a result, all children make good progress in their learning and development.
- The childminder recognises children's uniqueness because she regularly communicates with parents and gets to know children and their families well. As a result, she meets their physical and emotional needs well.
- The childminder works directly with her assistant, providing supervision and support so that teaching is effective. Together they review their practice, look for better ways of working and identify areas for development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder misses some opportunities to help children understand about cause and effect.
- Parents do not receive the most current information on all the areas of learning and development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support children further in understanding the world by recognising what causes some things to have an effect on others
- provide parents with the most recent information on the areas of development to support learning at home further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder at convenient times and provided the opportunity for a joint observation.
- The inspector took account of parents' written feedback and the childminder's evaluation of her practice.
- 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 good

The childminder has a good understanding of her responsibilities and meets the statutory requirements. Overall, the childminder provides parents with good information. They share regular verbal and written facts on children's development and care. The childminder knows the importance of working in partnerships with other early years providers. She has made contact with the local pre-school where children have just started; this is so that they can have a consistent approach to children's care and learning. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder and her assistant attend training. As a result, they know the procedures to follow should a child be at risk. They keep confidential records and pass on appropriate information to the relevant authorities. They have booked additional training to develop their knowledge of safeguarding further in light of recent guidance

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of teaching is good. Through her observations, the childminder knows how best to support children. Following the last inspection, the childminder uses her observations more effectively to identify children's next stages of learning. This helps her to plan for their individual needs. The childminder provides a well-resourced child-centred environment, where children can make independent choices. Children have extensive opportunities to be outdoors and learn about the natural world. They grow and eat their own vegetables and see who has the tallest sunflower, for example. The childminder enthuses children to take part in adult-led activities but enables them to use it their own way. Consequently, children's thinking is deeper and they remain at the activity longer.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Parents comment positively on the care the childminder provides, especially in helping children to settle. Children demonstrate good manners and the childminder supports them well in their social skills. Children develop a positive awareness of people's differences and use sign language to support communication. Children learn to take care of their personal care and hygiene. They develop good healthy practices, such as helping themselves to fresh drinking water throughout the day. As children play, they know to tidy up toys from the floor and sit on chairs properly. They understand that the safety net must be closed before using the large trampoline. This helps them gain a good understanding of keeping safe. In addition, visitors include a fire and police officer to extend children's awareness.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and development, from their starting points. The childminder prepares older children well for school. They develop independence, understand expectations and enjoy learning. For example, at the inspection, children were eager to find magnetic letters and spell their names. They explored resources to find out what they could do with them and put their boots on to go in the garden.

Setting details

Unique reference number	141902
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	825780
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	11 February 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1979. She lives in the village of Cossington near Bridgwater, Somerset. The childminder sometimes works with an assistant and they provide care each weekday, including before and after school, for 48 weeks a year. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years old.

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