

Childminder Report

Inspection date

21 September 2015

Previous inspection date

19 January 2010

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 and her assistants provide an excellent setting where children thrive in their care. The range of activities, toys and play materials are exemplary. Children thoroughly enjoy the exciting learning opportunities in the exceptionally stimulating environment.
- The childminder and her assistants have an excellent knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They have very high expectations of what children can achieve and use their teaching expertise to inspire children's interest and learning. Children are highly enthusiastic and eager to join in, gaining excellent skills for future learning and preparation for school.
- The childminder is passionate about the quality of her provision and successfully strives to make further improvements. Professional development and monitoring of children's progress is extremely rigorous. The childminder is exceptionally well organised in her approach to childcare.
- There are excellent relationships with children and their families. The childminder sensitively tailors her childcare arrangements to meet the needs of each family. Parents provide extremely positive feedback and refer to the 'fantastic, nurturing environment' and 'exceptional care'.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give children more time to complete their own investigations before moving on to the next activity.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder, assistants and children in their activities.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and her assistants.
- The inspector sampled children's development records and carried out joint observations with the childminder.
- The inspector checked required certificates and specific documentation.
- The inspector took account of the childminder's self-evaluation and feedback from parents.

Inspector

Julie Wright

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder has taken exemplary steps to increase teaching skills further. She employs a highly qualified assistant who has supported staff to an advanced level of teaching. This particularly benefits the more able children, who receive further challenges, especially in their communication and language. The childminder and her assistants attend various courses, which refresh their excellent knowledge of policies and procedures. Safeguarding is highly effective. The childminder and her assistants demonstrate competent knowledge in child protection matters. The childminder ensures that all persons working with children are suitable through rigorous checks. She monitors their ongoing suitability through highly effective supervision and observations of their practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The educational programme is exceptional. The childminder and her assistants provide excellent support to children. Exciting activities promote children's development extremely well. Young children listen with keen interest and readily contribute at circle time, which shows very good concentration and confidence. Children benefit greatly from individual support and numerous group activities. They learn to write, to recognise numbers, and to link letters with sounds. The childminder and her assistants support children's earliest literacy skills extremely well, working with the local school to help prepare children for their move. The childminder and her assistants frequently discuss planning and activities with parents, which very successfully involves them in their children's learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children show an excellent sense of belonging. They make confident and independent choices, and use the resources exceptionally well. Children sit and draw quietly, with very good focus on their pencil control. Others play imaginatively in the role-play kitchen and with the toy workbench. Children chatter and play exceptionally well together as they share toys and ideas. The childminder and her assistants plan innovative activities to link with current themes and reinforce learning. For instance, children investigate a model skeleton to learn about their bodies. They show fascination as they inspect the bones, although the childminder does not give them enough time to fully explore this before initiating a related story. The childminder and her assistants are highly conscientious of children's welfare and safety. They teach them from a young age how to be safe and how to find help when needed. Gentle prompts remind children about expectations of behaviour, such as to 'listen please'.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children have a wonderful time and thoroughly enjoy their learning. They are highly inquisitive and constantly busy, and make excellent progress from their starting points.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY308752
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	827148
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	13
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	19 January 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2005. She lives in the village of Downterry, near Torpoint, Cornwall. Care is available for children each weekday from 6.30am to 10pm, during term time and school holidays. The childminder receives early education funding to provide free places for children aged two, three and four years old. The childminder employs assistants to help with the care of the children. The childminder and her assistants have relevant childcare qualifications, including one assistant with Qualified Teacher Status. The childminder offers transport to and from children's own homes.

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