

Childminder Report

Inspection date

3 November 2015

Previous inspection date

24 February 2011

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

- The childminder has a sound understanding of requirements. She uses her knowledge and experience to provide activities that help children enjoy learning.
- Partnerships with parents and other providers are good. The childminder has regular discussions and shares information with staff in other settings so that children benefit from consistency of care.
- The childminder interacts positively with children during play and routines, supporting their communication and language skills well.
- The childminder uses her observations and assessments of the children effectively to plan interesting and challenging activities.
- Children become aware of the importance of eating healthy food. They begin to understand where food comes from, for example by growing their own produce.
- The childminder evaluates the quality of her provision effectively. She consults children and parents to consider possible improvements to the service she provides.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder misses some opportunities to encourage children to practise their early reading skills.
- The childminder does not always allow children time, and encourage them to experiment and follow their own ideas, to develop their creative skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance resources and opportunities for children to practise their early reading skills throughout the environment
- allow children time, and encourage them to experiment and follow their own ideas, to develop their creative skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder engaged in activities with the children inside and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies, qualification certificates and children's records.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents in written comments.

Inspector

Margaret Baird

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder has a good understanding of her responsibilities and provides children with a high standard of care. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder implements clear policies and is confident about the steps to follow to protect children from harm. She meets with other childminders for mutual support and attends training to help develop her practice further. Children benefit from her up-to-date knowledge of recent legislation and new play experiences. The childminder has good links with other settings children attend. This promotes consistency in their care and learning. Children become familiar with local primary schools with the childminder, which supports their confidence when they start to attend.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses her knowledge and experience of how children learn to promote learning effectively during activities. For example, she encourages children to notice shapes and compare sizes as they take part in craft activities, developing their mathematical vocabulary. Children have regular access to the outdoor area and the childminder is skilful in helping them to find out about the natural world. For example, children learn about the different seasons and what plants need to grow as they plant bulbs outdoors. The childminder monitors and tracks children's development. This enables her to quickly identify and respond to any gaps in their achievements.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a welcoming home environment and forms caring relationships with the children in her care. They settle quickly and develop confidence and good self-esteem, to help them play and explore. The childminder teaches children to follow good hygiene routines and promotes their independence effectively. Children behave well and are considerate towards each other. The childminder is a good role model, for example, by helping children to share and cooperate as they play. The childminder values the cultures and festivals that are relevant to the children who attend. She helps children to learn about the wider world and respect people's differences. Children benefit from a variety of outings and visits where they find out about their local area. They develop social skills, for example, as they play with others at toddler groups.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress during their time with the childminder. They enjoy learning through play and are gaining valuable skills in preparation for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	104374
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	824748
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	24 February 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Ivybridge, in Plymouth, Devon. She operates her service from 7am until 6pm each weekday throughout the year.

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