Childminder Report



Inspection date	30 November 2015
Previous inspection date	5 January 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and asses	sment	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 provides exceptional support for children's care, well-being and development. She works extremely well with other settings and schools children attend to support continuity in their learning. Her highly effective links with other agencies enable her to access additional support quickly to help close gaps in learning.
- The childminder has an uncompromising drive to improve the quality of provision. She uses findings from her thorough self-evaluation to prioritise areas for improvement meticulously and to sharply focus areas for further professional development.
- The childminder monitors children's progress and the quality and success of her provision exceptionally well. She quickly identifies and takes action to close any gaps in individual children's learning and to broaden the range of activities and experiences she provides to improve teaching.
- The childminder and her assistants make excellent use of knowledge gained from training to provide high levels of support to promote children's communication and language skills.
- The childminder provides a stimulating and highly effective indoor and outdoor learning environment with a wide range of resources, which children choose independently to follow their interests.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

 extend the use of spontaneous opportunities that arise during children's activities to enhance their understanding of shape, capacity and measure.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children engaged in activities and the interactions of the childminder and her co-provider and assistant with them.
- The inspector spoke with the children, childminder and assistants at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled various documents, including children's learning records, the childminder's self-evaluation, risk assessments and relevant policies and procedures.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation of staff practice and discussed this with the childminder.
- The inspector took into account the written views of parents.

Inspector

June Robinson

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Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder keeps up to date with legislative changes and has a very secure understanding of all requirements. She has an excellent knowledge of the correct procedures to follow if she has child protection concerns. The childminder places high emphasis on children acquiring the skills that support their future learning. For example, she undertakes independent research and uses the highly effective partnerships she has established with other settings and schools to understand how to prepare children most effectively for their move on to school. The childminder organises her home exceptionally well to meet children's individual needs. For example, she has adapted an area in her home to support the play needs of younger children. The childminder passes on her high expectations to her staff through a clear system of support and focused training.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder and her assistants make accurate assessments of children's learning, which they use exceptionally well to plan challenging activities that meet the needs and interests of all children. The childminder supports children very well to develop their mathematical knowledge about number and counting. For example, children estimated how many wooden blocks they had posted down a tall cardboard tube. They counted the blocks accurately when the tube was removed. Children solve problems independently. For example, they worked out how to reach the top of the tower to add more bricks as it got taller. The childminder teaches children to understand the natural world and they use this knowledge in other activities. For instance, while eating, children knowledgeably discussed how the strawberries and tomatoes they grew in the garden changed from green to red. Children have excellent language skills and communicate skilfully.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children's behaviour is exemplary. The childminder ensures that children's personal and social development is integral to all activities. She teaches children to respect and understand others. For example, she helps them to make the right decisions when their actions have upset their friends. She praises them for their teamwork, for being good friends and taking turns well. Children have very secure relationships with the childminder and assistants. The childminder teaches children the importance of being healthy, for example, through daily outdoor physical play and learning, choosing healthy foods and managing their own needs with confidence.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make significant progress from their starting points in all areas of learning. They are highly confident and independent, and develop the skills they need for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY404233

Local authority Somerset

Inspection number 831304

Type of provision Childminder

Day care type Childminder

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 0 - 8

Total number of places 12

Number of children on roll 14

Name of provider

Date of previous inspection 5 January 2011

Telephone number

The childminder registered in 2010. She lives in Yeovil, Somerset. The childminder works with a co-provider and assistants. She is open all year round, Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 5.30pm. She receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The childminder and one of her assistants hold relevant early years qualifications at level 5.

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