

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 December 2015

Previous inspection date

21 April 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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, and provides a supportive service to families. Parents speak highly of the childminder's professional approach and commitment.
- Partnerships with parents and other settings children attend are strong. Children benefit from a consistent approach to their learning and development.
- The childminder interacts positively with children during play and routines, supporting their communication and language skills well. This helps them to gain the key skills necessary for future learning and starting school.
- The childminder uses her observations and assessments of the children effectively to plan an interesting range of activities based on their learning needs.
- The childminder evaluates the quality of her provision effectively. She is reflective and consults children and parents to consider possible improvements to her provision.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the childminder helps children to develop early literacy skills, there are fewer opportunities for them to see print in the environment to reinforce this learning.
- Overall, children develop their physical and creative skills during planned activities. However, there are fewer opportunities for them to experiment, explore and create with an interesting and wide variety of materials and tools.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's interest in print in the environment, to help increase their early literacy skills
- provide more opportunities for children to experiment, explore and create using a variety of materials, tools and techniques.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children engaged in activities with the childminder and assistant indoors and outside.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder, assistant and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of policies and procedures, and the childminder's self-evaluation.
- The inspector took account of written comments by parents.

Inspector

Margaret Baird

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Children enjoy their time with the childminder and benefit from a high standard of care. Safeguarding is effective. Clear policies and procedures help the childminder and her assistants to keep children safe and protect them from harm. The childminder strives to improve and attends training to develop and improve her skills. This has supported her practice with children aged two years and the activities and resources she provides. The childminder works effectively with assistants and supports and monitors their professional development, sharing knowledge for a consistent approach. The childminder ensures children become familiar with local primary schools, so they develop confidence for when the time comes for them to attend.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder is well qualified and uses her knowledge and experience of how children learn to promote learning effectively during activities. Overall, the quality of teaching is good, which has a positive impact on the children's learning and development. Children regularly play outdoors and develop their physical skills and knowledge. They enjoy playing with wheeled toys, balancing and improving their coordination. Children find out about the natural world, for example, by planting and growing their own produce with the childminder. The childminder support children's mathematical development well. They learn to count as they sing songs and rhymes together, and notice shapes during craft activities. The childminder monitors and tracks children's development carefully. She identifies any gaps in the curriculum and children's progress, and plans activities in response.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The caring and attentive childminder forms close relationships with the children. Children behave well and are considerate towards each other. The childminder is a good role model, helping children to share and cooperate as they play. She encourages children to respect and listen to each other. Children become independent and follow good hygiene routines, for example, as they wash their hands before eating and after messy activities. Children find out about their local area on outings. They develop good social skills at snack time, and sit and talk to each other, and help themselves to nutritious food.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy learning during play and gain valuable skills in preparation for moving on to school. They make good progress from their starting points.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY346698
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	828512
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	20
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	21 April 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Whitchurch, near Tavistock in Devon. She works with assistants and operates her service from 7am to 5.30pm each weekday throughout the year. The childminder holds a level 3 childcare qualification.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
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