

Childminder Report

Inspection date

27 May 2016

Previous inspection date

6 September 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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 worked hard to raise the quality of her provision since the previous inspection. She has devised a useful development plan to address the issues raised at that time and to continue to drive future improvements. For example, she plans to undertake courses on internet safety and special educational needs to enhance her knowledge and skills.
- The childminder now plans and provides a stimulating range of experiences that capture children's attention and on which they concentrate well. These help children to make good progress in their learning and development from their starting points.
- The childminder pays excellent attention to protecting children from harm. She fully understands, and acts on, any concerns about children's welfare.
- The children enjoy extremely good relationships with the childminder. These help children to be emotionally secure, and to develop good levels of motivation and personal independence.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes the childminder is too eager to give children answers to her questions, so that they do not have time to think and work out possible responses for themselves.
- Sometimes the childminder's expectations are too high for children's current capabilities, which do not help the children to develop their early writing skills as effectively as possible in preparation for school.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that children have sufficient time to compose their thoughts and think through their answers in response to questions
- make sure that opportunities for children to develop their early writing skills are as closely matched to their capabilities as possible.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas of the home used for childminding, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector observed the childminder's teaching and its impact on children's learning.
- The inspector and childminder discussed children's activities.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including first-aid certificates for the childminder and her assistant, other training certificates, the suitability checks for household members, children's records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder how she safeguards children.

Inspector

Rosemary Davies

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder implements careful risk assessments and now keeps accurate records of children's attendance. She has worked effectively with local authority advisors to develop her skills and knowledge. The childminder makes sure that her assistant has the necessary qualifications for his role and encourages him to extend these. She has good partnerships with parents and acts on their views to improve her provision. For example, she has introduced 'communication books' to extend the two-way exchange of information between home and the setting. The childminder checks children's progress so that it is at least good overall. This helps the childminder to spot where children may be behind for their ages, and she knows how to plan activities to help them catch up.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides children with a good range of resources. Children enjoy their play and benefit from the childminder's attentive support, which contributes to their good progress. For example, children choose their favourite books, which the childminder reads to them clearly. The childminder assesses children's ongoing development with help from parents, which aids activity planning. She knows the children as individuals and is well aware of their current interests, for example, in the natural world. The childminder follows such interests closely to promote learning. For example, she has created a 'bug corner', where children eagerly find creatures that they name correctly as slugs, woodlice and snails, and which they study with great interest. Children develop their physical skills well overall, such as cutting carefully with scissors.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder has high expectations for children's behaviour, which she applies consistently. Children respond well to these. For example, they know and comply with the 'house rules' of eating at the dining table. Children develop good personal and social skills; for example, they know how to play simple domino games by following rules and taking turns. The childminder carefully teaches children how to use good hygiene in their personal care and how to keep themselves safe, such as when using the stairs.

Outcomes for children are good

Overall, children are well prepared for school and gain many useful skills. They speak in full sentences and express their thoughts clearly, for example, when looking at tadpoles outside. Children know how books work. They listen to favourite stories and follow the childminder's instructions. They count numbers under 10 accurately and recognise some numerals. Children are well mannered and behave extremely well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY455850
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1049748
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	3 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	6 September 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2012. She lives in Bishops Lydeard, Somerset. The childminder operates her service on weekdays from 8am until 6pm, apart from family holidays and bank holidays. She is available in school holidays by request. The childminder receives funding for the provision of free education for children aged three and four years.

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