

Childminder Report

Inspection date

5 October 2016

Previous inspection date

23 October 2013

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 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 provides extremely high-quality and imaginative learning experiences, both indoors and outside. She targets these very well to challenge children's individual next steps in learning and follow their interests. Children are highly motivated, eager to learn and completely engaged in activities.
- The childminder uses praise and encouragement exceptionally well and teaches children from a very young age to recognise and celebrate each other's achievements. Children have excellent self-esteem and confidence in their abilities.
- Partnership with parents is very strong. The childminder works exceptionally closely with them to ensure she understands meets their needs very well, ensuring children are extremely emotionally secure with her. The childminder regularly exchanges information with parents about children's learning and achievements, which significantly contributes to the children's rapid progress.
- The childminder uses self-evaluation very well. She works very closely with and fully considers the views of parents, children and other professionals to help her make excellent changes to her practice. This has led her to reorganise and change the learning environment and activities so that children enthusiastically embrace new learning opportunities and challenges.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to compare quantities, and solve number problems to add and subtract.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder and children inside and outside.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies, qualification certificates and children's records.
- The inspector reviewed the childminder's self-evaluation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and professionals through their written comments left for the inspection.

Inspector

Katherine Lamb

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder makes excellent use of training to develop her practice very effectively. This has helped her to support children's language skills extremely well and develop her planning based on her knowledge of each child's learning style. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder's recent training ensures that she is very confident about raising any child protection concerns and protecting children's welfare. The childminder monitors her practice and children's progress extremely well to identify and promptly address gaps in their learning and identify ways that she can make improvements.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder has an excellent understanding of how children learn. For example, she introduces new language and concepts, such as liquid and solid, and teaches children how to use two-handed equipment with increasing skill and safety. The childminder very skilfully extends children's creativity. For example, she helps them to notice how the blackberries can make purple paint and how they get more paint when they add water to the mixture. She asks probing questions and gives time for children to think their ideas through. However, at times, she misses opportunities for children to compare quantities more and solve number problems to add and subtract.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder supports children's social and emotional development extremely well. Children build very strong attachments to the childminder and develop very secure relationships with each other. The childminder works very closely with parents to follow their wishes and to mirror children's routines from home. The childminder is highly skilled and sensitive in helping children to form secure emotional attachments. This provides an excellent base for their very strong independence and exploration. Children are extremely happy and thrive in the homely atmosphere. The childminder very skilfully guides children's behaviour so they learn to share toys, respect one another's choices and behave extremely well. Children learn very well to adopt healthy lifestyles. They choose to spend a great deal of time learning in the highly stimulating garden and gain excellent physical skills. The childminder teaches children exceptionally well how to manage risks and keep themselves and others safe.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress in relation to their starting points and capabilities. They are extremely well prepared for future learning and their eventual move on to school. Children are extremely curious, imaginative and concentrate very well in their chosen activities. They are highly confident communicators, listen very well and proudly take responsibility for small tasks.

Setting details

Unique reference number	142126
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1061464
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	23 October 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1996 and lives in a rural location, close to the village of Buckland St Mary, Somerset. She receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The childminder operates her service on Tuesday to Friday from 8am to 5.30pm, all year round.

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