

Childminder Report

Inspection date

16 December 2016

Previous inspection date

10 June 2014

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

- Children are happy. The childminder forms very close bonds with them so that they feel secure and settle quickly.
- The childminder knows the children well. She plans activities effectively to meet their interests and developmental needs. Children are interested and motivated to learn.
- Children choose from a good variety of equipment and resources, which the childminder places at a lower level so they are within reach, encouraging children to form and follow their own play ideas.
- Partnerships with parents are effective. The childminder exchanges information with parents regularly, working together consistently to support children, especially the very young ones.
- The childminder successfully updates her knowledge. For example, she attends courses and reads publications that give her different ideas and skills to meet children's learning and welfare needs, such as serving appropriate portion sizes at mealtimes.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not use mealtimes as effectively as she could to enable younger children to learn consistent expectations for when they move on in their learning and to develop their social and communication skills further.
- The childminder does not provide children with enough opportunities to explore and make marks to develop their early writing skills further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support younger children more effectively at mealtimes so they learn consistent expectations for when they move on in their learning and build on their developing social and conversational skills
- increase opportunities for all children to explore and make marks in their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing independently and with the childminder.
- The inspector toured parts of the childminder's home she uses for childminding.
- The inspector spoke to children at appropriate times during the inspection, and took into consideration parents' views by reading written testimonials.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records and the childminder's safeguarding policy.

Inspector

Tristine Hardwick

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder understands how to identify and report any child protection concerns, including wider safeguarding matters. Since the last inspection, the childminder has made good improvements and has successfully addressed the recommendation to make greater use of opportunities to develop children's understanding of mathematics. The childminder monitors children's development closely to identify any areas where they may need additional support, so children continually make good progress. The childminder uses self-evaluation well to identify areas to improve and takes action promptly. For example, she has purchased additional resources to extend children's awareness and use of technology.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder obtains detailed information about children before they start with her. She uses this well to prepare activities that will interest them and meet their learning needs. The childminder regularly observes children to identify their changing needs. This successfully informs her plans for ongoing experiences that maintain children's eagerness to play and learn. The childminder makes good use of children's play and activities to include a wide range of learning opportunities to challenge children. For example, as small children decorate gingerbread, she talks to them about colours, helping to extend their creativity even further. Children learn from a young age that books provide new information. For example, during a discussion with the childminder about dogs, they search for pictures in books and enjoy looking at and counting them together.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children confidently explore their surroundings. They show they are comfortable in the childminder's sensitive care. The childminder is a good role model for children. She provides them with positive examples of how to interact, such as being kind. She is attentive to their needs, such as recognising when they are hungry. She helps children to develop good self-esteem, and she praises their achievements. Children develop good physical skills. They enjoy outings to parks and playing in the childminder's garden.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and enjoy activities across all areas of learning. They play imaginatively, such as 'cooking chicken' in the toy washing machine. Children are active and build good physical skills. They meet other children at groups with the childminder, such as music time sessions. Children learn to make sense of the world around them. For example, girls play with dolls and prams, taking them for 'walks'. Younger children develop their vocabulary well and begin to use words with confidence. Children are ready for their next stages in learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY472924
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	1069964
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	4
Number of children on roll	1
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	10 June 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2014 and lives in Exeter, Devon. She offers care every weekday from 8am until 6pm all year round, except public holidays. The childminder also provides overnight care.

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