Childminder Report



Inspection date	8 February 2017
Previous inspection date	27 November 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

- The childminder successfully teaches children about equality and diversity. For example, she explains that men and women can do the same jobs, such as being a firefighter, and how boys and girls are 'good at helping'.
- Children communicate well. The childminder speaks to them constantly and they enjoy many conversations about things that interest them, such as beards.
- The childminder provides a wide range of equipment and resources for children to enjoy. Children access resources independently, which helps them to develop new interests and extend existing ones.
- Partnerships with parents are effective. The childminder exchanges information frequently with parents, to provide consistent care and learning arrangements, such as managing children's behaviour.
- Self-evaluation is effective. The childminder reflects on her practice well and identifies areas for improvement, such as increasing outdoor play experiences in her garden.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the childminder encourages children to count in sequence, she frequently misses opportunities to teach them more about shapes, patterns, numbers and quantity, and solving simple number problems.
- The childminder does not consistently use opportunities at mealtimes to help children develop their social skills further, to interact and engage with others at the table.

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What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of everyday opportunities to teach children more about shapes, patterns, numbers and quantity, and solving simple number problems
- improve mealtime routines to extend children's social skills even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing independently, with each other and the childminder.
- The inspector toured parts of the childminder's home used for childminding.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and spoke to children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation relating to children's learning and development, and the childminder's policies and procedures.

Inspector

Tristine Hardwick

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Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder has made good improvements since her last inspection. For example, she provides more opportunities and activities for children to use their imaginations and be creative. The childminder effectively keeps her knowledge and skills up to date. She attends training that helps her to successfully extend children's literacy skills. The childminder monitors children's progress well. She completes frequent observations and summarises children's development accurately, to identify and address any areas that may require additional support. The childminder works effectively with other settings children attend. She exchanges information with them and parents to provide consistent learning experiences for children and support their emotional needs successfully. The childminder supports her assistant well, for example, to ensure their knowledge of child protection is current. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder knows how to identify and report any concerns she has about children's safety and welfare, including wider safeguarding matters.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a good understanding of children's interests and supports them effectively, introducing other areas of interest and extending their ideas well. For instance, as children explored a picture of an ark with land and sea creatures, she asked questions to help extend their thoughts and ideas, such as encouraging them to think about what they would do if 'they saw a shark'. The childminder encourages children to be curious and investigative as they play. For example, as younger boys play with wheels on toy trucks, she introduces new words and asks them if the surfaces are bumpy or flat, helping to extend their understanding of textures.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and enjoy their time with the childminder. The childminder forms close bonds with them, which helps them to settle quickly. She follows their routines from home, which further supports children's feelings of security and readiness to learn. The childminder frequently praises children's achievements, such as when older children help to make wraps for lunch. This encourages children to behave well. Children learn well about different cultures and traditions, and they are considerate of others.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy a good variety of activities. Younger children explore their surroundings with curiosity. They develop good language skills as they babble to 'explain' the things they see. From a young age, all children learn to be kind and make friends. They learn to be independent, such as completing simple tasks without support. Children learn skills that prepare them well for the next stages of development and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY370237

Local authority Plymouth

Inspection number 1070973

Type of provision Childminder

Day care type Childminder

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 1 - 6

Total number of places 6

Number of children on roll 6

Name of registered person

Date of previous inspection 27 November 2014

Telephone number

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Plymouth, Devon. She offers care every weekday from 8am until 6pm all year round, except public holidays. The childminder receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The childminder holds a relevant early years foundation degree. The childminder's husband works as her assistant as and when needed.

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