

Childminder Report

Inspection date

27 June 2017

Previous inspection date

4 February 2015

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 very sociable. At a young age, they play well with other children and the childminder. The childminder teaches them to show kindness and consideration towards others. Children behave well.
- Children learn to use their imagination well. They enjoy role play, which helps them to make sense of their experiences. For example, they play with pretend food and serve 'sandwiches' to the childminder. This also helps them to learn about healthy lifestyles.
- The childminder supports children physical development effectively. She provides a range of activities that encourages children to exercise their bodies, as well as build their smaller muscles and develop good hand-to-eye coordination.
- Partnerships with parents are effective. The childminder develops good links so they can support their children with consistent learning arrangements, such as toilet training.
- Since the last inspection, the childminder has made successful improvements to her practice. For example, she encourages children to help her plan activities and they choose which resources they want to play with. This helps to support their interests.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Due to the childminder's enthusiasm, she sometimes does not enable children with the opportunity to think and initiate conversations themselves.
- The childminder does not use all opportunities to encourage more-reluctant younger children to build on their mark-making interests that support their early writing skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to think and initiate conversations themselves
- encourage children's mark-making and early writing skills more, particularly for those who are more reluctant to engage.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing with others and the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to children and the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector considered parents' views by reading written feedback completed for the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents, including children's records, and accident and injury documents.

Inspector

Tristine Hardwick

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is familiar with how to identify and report any concerns she has about children. She keeps her knowledge and skills up to date, which helps her to ensure she meets children's changing needs. For example, recent training has enabled her to support children's emotional security even more effectively. Overall, the childminder reflects well on her practice to identify her improvements plan. She did not, as required and in the timescale, inform Ofsted of a significant event that could affect her suitability. However, there was no impact on children's well-being and she took appropriate steps to ensure children's safety. The childminder monitors children's progress well, such as completing frequent observations to help her identify any learning gaps. She recently introduced communication books to help support this area of her practice and extend partnerships with parents further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, the childminder interacts well to support children's learning and development. As she plays with them, she uses a range of techniques to encourage children to develop new skills. For example, as older children use felt pens to colour, she suggests they try to write letters in their name to support their early writing skills. The childminder includes children's ideas and play choices in the plans she sets for their learning. She prepares activities and resources ready for when they arrive, which motivates children to play and maximises their learning experiences. For example, she prepares building-block play to support children's physical development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children show they feel safe and secure, and have close bonds with the childminder. She provides regular praise and reassurance, and this helps them to develop good self-esteem. Children learn skills to help them become independent. For example, older children understand the need to tidy away toys when they finish playing. The childminder is a positive role model. She is caring and attentive to children's needs and supports their routines well, such as ensuring younger children eat lunch so they settle well to sleep.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in relation to their starting points. They enjoy being imaginative through their play, such as making 'dinosaur' noises. Children make sense of their experiences in their activities, such as preparing 'tea' for the childminder. They are curious and explore their surroundings with confidence, which helps to establish an interest in learning. Children develop their mathematical knowledge well and understand how to use mathematical words in their play, such as identifying shapes and spontaneously counting. Children are prepared well for their next stages in learning and the eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	104381
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	1088951
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	4 February 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1997 and lives in Ivybridge, Devon. She offers care every weekday from 7.30am until 5.15pm, all year round, except public holidays.

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