

Childminder Report

Inspection date

2 November 2017

Previous inspection date

17 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 is enthusiastic and friendly. She creates inviting, comfortable surroundings where children can safely explore, play and manage their personal care needs. Children are happy, settled and clearly enjoy spending time with the childminder.
- The childminder has a wealth of experience in caring for children. She has a good understanding of how children learn and develop, and she provides a wide range of interesting activities to promote their learning.
- Children behave very well. The childminder uses effective strategies to promote positive behaviour and raise children's self-esteem. She helps children to develop their understanding of how to play well together.
- Good settling-in procedures ensure children are ready for the move from their home to the childminder.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not consistently support children's independence as sometimes she completes tasks for them that they could try to do for themselves.
- The childminder does not give parents enough encouragement and support to share information about what their children are achieving at home, to build on this further in her setting.
- The childminder does not regularly ask parents and children to contribute towards the evaluation of her practice, so that they can give ideas for future development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- identify when to give children more time to manage tasks independently
- support parents more effectively to share details about what children are learning at home, and use this information to inform plans so that a more consistent and complementary approach to their learning is provided
- improve the system for self-evaluation to include more opportunities to gather and act on the views and suggestions of parents and children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke with children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Tina Smith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder ensures her home is maintained to a very good standard of safety and cleanliness. She carries out daily checks to make sure that all toys and equipment are fit for purpose. The childminder has a comprehensive set of policies and procedures to minimise risks to children when in the setting or on outings. She has a good knowledge of child protection issues and the procedures to follow if she has a concern about a child in her care. The childminder is a reflective practitioner and regularly meets with other childminders to discuss any changes to legislation and to share ideas for best practice. She attends relevant training. This assists her to build on the good practice already achieved.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows the children in her care extremely well. She regularly checks children's individual progress to identify any gaps in their learning and development. Children develop their imagination as they engage in role play. The childminder encourages them to talk about what they are doing and recall previous experiences. For example, they discuss if they should pay with a credit card or cash as they pretend to buy groceries from the make-believe shop. Children express their creativity as they make marks with pens and crayons. They work together as they excitedly build tall towers. The childminder provides a good range of experiences for children to learn about the natural world and their local environment. They attend playgroups and visit the woods, where they make dens and learn about the animals and insects they see.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder establishes good relationships with parents from the start. She keeps them well informed about their child's progress, achievements and care needs. Children learn about the importance of a healthy lifestyle and good hygiene. The childminder teaches them that germs can cause them to be unwell and they competently wash their hands before eating food. Children use their senses to explore a selection of fruits as they make fruit kebabs for their snack. Children enjoy fresh air and exercise as they excitedly play outside in the well-resourced garden. They display high levels of concentration as they paint the fence with water. Children are articulate and proudly show visitors the fairy house they recently made with the childminder. Children enthusiastically count as they hop and jump. The childminder joins in with their play to model the game and explain the rules.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress and are acquiring key skills in preparation for school. They share, take turns and make choices about what they want to do. Children are confident and show sustained levels of concentration. They enjoy trying out new experiences, such as fruit tasting. Children are developing good mathematical skills. They are able to count from one to 10 as they play number games. Children enjoy listening to stories and give meaning to the marks they make.

Setting details

Unique reference number	223396
Local authority	Herefordshire
Inspection number	1103236
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	17 November 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1992 and lives on the northern outskirts of Hereford. She operates all year round from 7am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for three-and four-year-old children.

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