

Childminder Report

Inspection date

14 November 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 fully committed to continuous improvement and values the views of parents and children in her self-evaluation. For example, she thoughtfully observes children to establish their individual interests. Children benefit from many different resources that improve their engagement and enjoyment in activities.
- Partnerships with parents are good. There is an effective two-way flow of information about children's achievements that strengthens children's learning well. Children make good progress from their starting points.
- The childminder provides strong support for children's communication and language development. For example, she skilfully encourages children to describe activities they have enjoyed with their families. They listen carefully to each other and speak fluently, using a wide vocabulary and complex sentences.
- Children form affectionate bonds with the childminder and each other. The childminder is caring and attentive to their needs, supporting their emotional development well. She provides a stimulating, homely environment with a good range of resources accessible to children, so they can make choices about their play.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder sometimes misses opportunities to encourage children to experiment with resources and solve problems to extend their learning further.
- Although the childminder helps children to understand that print carries meaning, she does not encourage them to learn the sounds letters make to support their understanding of phonics.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage children to explore and experiment with resources to help them speculate and solve problems more independently
- provide more support for children to notice the sounds letters make in words, to extend their literacy skills further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder engaged in activities with children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of documents, including the childminder's policies and children's records.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents in written comments.

Inspector

Margaret Baird

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good understanding of the signs and symptoms that would cause her concern. She is clear about the procedure to follow to keep children safe from harm. The childminder is committed to developing her knowledge and skills further, for example by attending training. She has developed very successful strategies for supporting children's emotional development and good behaviour towards each other. Thorough monitoring of children's learning provides the childminder with a clear overview of children's development. She is clear about using funding effectively and working with outside agencies to support children who need extra help. Positive relationships with other providers and local schools help to support good communication, and consistency of care and learning for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a good understanding of how young children learn. She uses her precise assessments of children's levels of development to plan a good variety of challenging experiences. For example, she encourages children to count and recognise numbers when they follow a recipe, to support the next steps in their mathematical development effectively. She extends and reinforces their learning at snack time, as they calculate how many pieces of fruit they will have left when they have eaten some more. Children benefit from regular outings and visits to toddler groups, where they mix with a wider group of children, and develop good social skills. They find out about their own community and the lives of others in different countries around the world. For example, they take part in learning about celebrations, such as the Hindu festival of Diwali.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder is a good role model and treats children with care and consideration. She helps them to understand their feelings successfully and avoid potential conflict. Children behave well and share and cooperate happily during play. The childminder places a high priority on helping children to adopt healthy lifestyles. She provides freshly made nutritious meals and snacks. Children benefit from daily fresh air and are physically active. For example, they play chasing and running games, and gain good coordination and balance as they ride bikes outdoors. The childminder provides a safe environment and children show a good awareness of staying safe as they play. They tidy away toys when they have finished playing with them to minimise hazards and injuries, for example.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain the skills they need for future learning and starting school. They are independent and manage their own shoes and coats well when they get ready to play outside. Children are interested and motivated learners and take part in activities with enthusiasm. They measure out, pour and mix ingredients with skill to make play dough, which they enjoy rolling and moulding into shapes. Children gain good manipulative skills and develop their imaginations and creative skills well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY493319
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	1029073
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	5
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2015. She operates flexible hours throughout the year. The childminder receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. She holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

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