

Childminder report

Inspection date	9 January 2019
Previous inspection date	24 August 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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 very experienced. Overall, she makes good use of what she knows about children's learning and development. This helps children gain the key skills they need for the next stage in their learning and eventual move to school.
- Children are very happy and settled. They enjoy their time with the childminder and her assistants, and form strong relationships with them, which shows that they feel safe and secure.
- Children are enthusiastic learners, who are motivated by the childminder and her assistants. Children confidently explore the available toys and activities and make informed choices from a very early age. For example, they enjoy selecting musical instruments and choosing songs to sing together.
- Children enjoy a range of outings to places of interest, such as the local park and walks around the community, that successfully complement their time in the childminder's home.
- The childminder and her assistants are positive role models. Children receive good support through gentle guidance and simple explanations. As a result, children complement one another on their behaviour, reinforcing what they have learnt.
- The childminder has developed effective partnerships with other professionals, such as childminders and local schools. This helps to provide consistency for children.
- Opportunities to involve parents in children's learning at home are not always fully utilised to support children's progress further.
- Systems for planning for children's next steps are not yet fully embedded into practice and do not always sharply focus on what children need to learn next to help them consistently achieve at the highest levels.

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 to involve parents in their children's learning at home, to support children's progress even further
- focus planning more sharply on children's next steps and what they need to learn next, to help them achieve at the highest levels.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder, her assistants and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the childminder's suitability to work with children. She discussed children's learning, assessment and planning with the childminder.
- The inspector obtained written feedback from parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Carly Ellicott

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder regularly updates her knowledge of child protection issues. She is aware of the possible indicators of abuse and understands how to report any concerns she may have about a child's welfare. The childminder's assistants are well supported. Opportunities to update training are regularly given. The childminder and her assistants are always reflective practitioners and evaluate their practice, considering the needs of the children in their care. For example, they have attended training to specifically support boys. This helps to ensure they meet their learning goals. The childminder maintains documents, qualifications and the records required to underpin good provision for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder and her assistants are enthusiastic and knowledgeable in their approach to teaching and learning. They engage children with interesting activities, which motivate their interest and curiosity. As a result, children are confident learners. For example, children delight in exploring sand and water in trays and learn to solve problems as they transport the materials. The childminder and her assistants consistently introduce mathematical language to the children as they count objects together and discuss the height of towers made from stickle bricks. The childminder promotes diversity well. For instance, she supports children to recognise the similarities and differences between individuals as they play with the selection of dolls and books showing different cultural backgrounds.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are encouraged to make healthy food choices to support their development of healthy lifestyles. Young children feed themselves independently and older children engage in social conversations at mealtimes. The childminder and her assistants share detailed information about children's progress with parents regularly. This helps them to adapt children's care routines and support their emotional and physical well-being. For example, children become independent with managing personal care routines, such as potty training.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in relation to their starting points and are working in the stages typically expected for their age. Young children have very good levels of self-confidence and develop good social skills. The childminder and her assistants understand how to prepare older children for starting school. For example, children go on visits to the school with them and to collect older children for after-school care, helping them to become familiar with the school staff and children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	102520
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	10062190
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	18
Date of previous inspection	24 August 2015

The childminder registered in 1983 and lives in Torpoint, Devon. She offers care every day from 6am until 6pm, all year round, except public holidays. The childminder works with two assistants.

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