

Childminder report

Inspection date	27 March 2019
Previous inspection date	7 December 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 monitors children's progress well. She makes accurate assessments that complement children's next steps to help them rapidly achieve their outcomes.
- Partnerships with other professionals are good. Children benefit from consistent experiences in the different settings they attend. For example, the childminder works closely with local pre-schools, sharing planning ideas to extend children's learning. The childminder also plans to contact schools within the area to establish a consistent early writing system to support children's good literacy development.
- The childminder and her assistant help children feel safe and secure. For instance, they have made 'family photograph books' that children can look at to help settle them quickly, supporting their emotional well-being effectively.
- Children have good opportunities to be outside. They go on various outings and have daily access to the childminder's garden, supporting active lifestyles.
- The childminder and her assistant have introduced 'treasure baskets'. They encourage children to explore a wide range of different materials to help develop their awareness of textures and provide a sense of achievement, for example.
- At times, the childminder misses opportunities to enhance and challenge children's mathematical learning further, to extend their understanding of numbers, counting, weights and measures.
- Occasionally, the childminder does not expand on discussions to help children connect ideas and clarify their thinking, to support their communication skills further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance and challenge children's mathematical learning even further, to support their understanding of numbers, counting, weights and measures
- help children to expand their conversations, connect ideas and clarify their thinking further, to support their communication skills even more.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector talked to the childminder and her assistant about safeguarding procedures and children's developmental progress.
- The inspector spoke to children and read written statements from parents to ascertain their views of the provision.
- The inspector observed the childminder and her assistant interacting with children.
- The inspector looked at samples of documentation, including training certificates, suitability checks, and policies and procedures.

Inspector

Joanne Steward

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder and her assistant have good knowledge about child protection procedures. They are both competent at recognising the signs of when a child may be at risk and how to deal with this effectively. The childminder and her assistant evaluate their practice often, reflecting on areas to improve. For example, they wish to enhance the garden area to support children's overall development further. The childminder keeps her training knowledge updated. She has begun to help children listen to sounds within the environment to support their literacy skills effectively. The childminder supervises her assistant well. For example, she provides effective coaching and mentoring to enhance her already strong teaching skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder and her assistant make regular observations of children's progress to assess their strengths and areas to develop. They ensure activities meet children's interests and individual needs well. For example, the childminder helps older children learn action songs and rhymes, supporting their creativity effectively. For younger children, the childminder reads their favourite stories, helping to support good early reading skills. All children thoroughly enjoy outdoor play, climbing through tunnels and going down the slide. This helps to strengthen their muscles and coordination skills, to support their physical development well. Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder frequently shares relevant information on children's progress, to help support learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well. They are extremely polite and sit patiently at the table for meals. Children develop strong independence skills. For example, they use knives to chop up their fruit and feed themselves competently with a spoon. The childminder and her assistant listen attentively to children, responding appropriately in a caring manner. For example, they praise children highly for their achievements, helping to support their self-esteem effectively. Children have their care needs well met. For instance, when a child is feeling unwell or tired, they are comforted warmly with a cuddle.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They develop the key skills needed for their next stage of learning and for their future move to school. Younger children learn how to make sandcastles, filling and emptying cups of sand. Older children learn how to throw and catch a ball, developing good physical skills. All children are happy and confident learners who enjoy their time in the provision.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY346698
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	10062543
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 9
Total number of places	9
Number of children on roll	10
Date of previous inspection	7 December 2015

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Whitchurch, Devon. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday. The childminder holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3. She always works with assistants. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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