Childminder report



Inspection date	25 April 2019
Previous inspection date	12 January 2016

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children benefit enormously from a nurturing and highly stimulating learning environment. The childminder provides an excellent range of learning experiences and resources that inspire children's engagement and enjoyment of their play.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. The effective two-way flow of information between the childminder and parents provides consistency and strengthens children's learning effectively.
- The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn and supports their development well. For example, she encourages them to become confident to climb up in the tree house and develop their coordination and balance well. Children enjoy developing their physical skills and make good progress from their starting points.
- Children gain a good understanding of the environment in which they live. For example, they regularly enjoy visits to the woods, local beaches and places of interest, where they extend their knowledge of the natural world.
- Occasionally, the childminder does not encourage children to experiment and work things out for themselves to fully develop their problem-solving skills.
- The childminder regularly reflects on her practice. However, she does not have a sharp focus on identifying clear targets to drive improvements at the very highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give children more time to experiment and work things out for themselves during activities, to help them to fully develop their skills in solving problems
- extend current self-evaluation procedures to identify clear targets for development and drive improvements at a higher level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder engaged in activities with children, to evaluate the quality of teaching and learning.
- The inspector carried out an evaluation with the childminder and discussed children's progress.
- The inspector talked to the childminder and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector looked at a range of documents, including children's records.
- The inspector looked at written comments from parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Margaret Baird

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder is experienced in childcare and keeps her knowledge and skills up to date. For example, she carries out research on current approaches to learning that inspire her to develop new resources for children to explore. This encourages their individual creativity well and develops their curiosity. The childminder tracks children's development effectively to identify and address any gaps in their learning. She establishes good links with local pre-schools and schools, helping children to move on to their future education with confidence and self-assurance. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder knows the signs that might lead to a concern about a child's welfare. She is clear about the correct procedures to follow to keep children safe from harm.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder observes children at play and makes accurate assessments of their levels of development. She plans interesting activities that help children of varying ages to progress to the next steps in their learning. For example, children become captivated as she brings the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' to life, using different voices to good effect. Children listen intently and the childminder values their comments, developing their interest in the book effectively. Older children gain good early reading skills as they enjoy repeating familiar phrases and confidently retell parts of the story. Younger children are eager to handle and count out the 'magic beans' accurately. They develop their good mathematical skills and vocabulary. The childminder extends the activity effectively as children reflect on the story and plant the 'magic beans' to grow their own beanstalks.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children thrive in the childminder's care and receive excellent support in their social and emotional development. The childminder gets to know children and families extremely well, and children settle very quickly and develop a strong sense of belonging. She gathers a wealth of information from parents to provide a high level of consistency to children's well-being. Children are happy and very secure in their familiar routines. The childminder makes the most of every opportunity to support children to understand others and develop good relationships with one another. For example, she supports children very sensitively to manage their feelings, share and take turns during activities. Older children show consideration for younger children and include them in their play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop the skills they need for future learning and moving on to school. They are capable communicators and older children express themselves fluently. Younger children delight in using new words as they play, and develop their widening vocabulary. Older children confidently identify letters in their names and know the sounds they make in words. Children are motivated learners and enjoy making choices about their play.

Setting details

Unique reference numberEY409016Local authorityCornwallInspection number10062241Type of provisionChildminder

Registers

Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare
Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Day care type Childminder

Age range of children 1 - 8

Total number of places 6

Number of children on roll 5

Date of previous inspection 12 January 2016

The childminder registered in 2010. She lives in the village of Millbrook, near Torpoint in Cornwall. The childminder operates from Monday to Thursday, from 7.30am until 6pm, for 47 weeks of the year. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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