

Childminder report

Inspection date: 29 January 2020

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are exceptionally well behaved. The childminder is an extremely positive role model and children learn by excellent example. Children are calm and happy. They have a positive approach to learning and are highly respectful of others. The childminder teaches children about how difference is valued. For example, children learn about different health conditions. They develop an exceptional understanding of how everyone is unique. The childminder provides tremendous support to help children feel safe and secure. She ensures they receive consistent reassurance and praise. Children have a thorough understanding of routines. They know exactly what is happening throughout the day. The childminder encourages children to take pride in their achievements. Children persevere in all that they do. They receive special certificates for their consistent effort and determination. Children have high levels of confidence and self-esteem.

The childminder plans exciting activities that meet children's interests. Children thoroughly enjoy playing in the 'ice-cream parlour'. They take 'orders' and write them down, supporting good early writing skills. Children talk about the different flavours available, such as 'strawberry', 'mint' and 'vanilla'. They use good language skills and act out narratives in their play. For instance, they ask the childminder if she would like 'sprinkles' or a 'chocolate flake'. Children talk about the cost of an ice cream. They use language related to money and places they have visited, such as American dollars.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder has formed effective relationships with parents, who speak highly of her in letters. For example, they state the childminder is 'understanding, professional and compassionate'. The childminder ensures parents contribute to children's learning. Children bring in items from home to help them recognise a variety of colours. The childminder provides parents with new knowledge from training. This helps them to develop strategies such as those that will promote children's personal hygiene.
- Children have good opportunities to develop an understanding of healthy lifestyles. The childminder provides them with nutritious home-cooked food. Children learn about the importance of brushing their teeth and do so after meals. Care practices are effective.
- The childminder has a robust understanding of how children develop. She tailors activities to help them meet their next steps in learning. Children count confidently to 10 and begin to match numbers to quantity. Occasionally, the childminder does not always check to see if children understand mathematical concepts to build on what they already know. Nonetheless, children develop good problem-solving skills to help them order numbers correctly.

- The childminder helps to prepare children for their move to school. She has carried out research on resource packs to share with parents and children. For instance, the childminder provides parents with ways to help children's independence at home. For children, the childminder provides opportunities for them to identify letters and write their name. This helps to support good literacy development.
- Children enjoy visiting places within the local area with the childminder. They take train and boat rides and learn about wildlife. For example, children buy nuts for the squirrels and observe them in their habitat. However, children do not have extensive opportunities to learn about the wider world, including different languages, cultures and traditions.
- Partnerships with other professionals are strong. The childminder has close links with other childminders in the area. They regularly meet to develop ideas that benefit children's development. For instance, they share information on the first 50 words children usually learn, to support children's communication skills.
- Children have inquisitive and curious minds. They ask thought-provoking questions, such as 'how are hailstones made?'. The childminder continues to promote their critical-thinking skills further. She provides children with extra activities to support this. For example, children birdwatch and visit the hedgehog sanctuary, where they learn about endangered species.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a strong understanding of how to keep children safe from harm. She confidently teaches older children how to protect themselves online. For younger children, the childminder provides parents with e-safety guidance. This helps them to become alert and aware of potential risks when children are using technology. The childminder minimises risks for children within the provision. She uses a video monitor to observe sleeping children and ensures all window cords are out of reach. The childminder has a robust understanding of safeguarding procedures. She is confident to make a referral to the relevant agencies if she has concerns about a child's welfare.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- devise strategies to check children's understanding of what they already know to help them make even more progress in their learning, particularly in mathematics
- provide further opportunities for children to learn about different ways of life in the wider world.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY547670
Local authority	Torbay
Inspection number	10133756
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 9
Total number of places	3
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2017 and lives in Paignton, Devon. She offers care Tuesday and Wednesday from 7am to 5.30pm, and before school on Thursdays from 7am to 9pm. The childminder provides free early education for children aged two, three and four years. She holds a level 3 qualification in childcare.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Joanne Steward

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a learning walk with the childminder and talked about the activities she provides for children.
- The childminder discussed how she works in partnership with parents and other early years professionals.
- A range of activities was observed and the inspector spoke to children during the day.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation and discussed the quality of the childminder's teaching.
- A sample of documentation was looked at by the inspector, such as safeguarding policies, the childminder's suitability and her training certificates.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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