

Childminder report

Inspection date:

13 March 2020

Overall effectiveness

Good

The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Good

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are extremely happy and settled in the childminder's care. They feel safe and share very warm, close relationships with her. Children sit on the childminder's lap to listen to a story or cuddle into her when they feel tired. Young children flourish in confidence and are exceptionally secure emotionally. They behave extremely well and benefit highly from the positive interactions with the childminder and one another. The childminder has high expectations. She knows the children well, plans for their individual needs effectively and monitors their progress. As a result, children make good progress in their development. Children talk about how they feel, and the childminder uses highly effective teaching strategies, such as using a 'stripy worry monster' toy, to encourage children to express their feelings and build their confidence.

Children develop good communication and language skills. They have a wide vocabulary and confidently talk to one another as they play. The childminder models language effectively and gives children praise and encouragement as they demonstrate their excellent knowledge and understanding. For example, children identify and name the dinosaur play figures and use their imagination well as they use blankets to make dens and snuggle on the sofa. Younger children care for the dolls, as they hold them close, pat their back and pretend to feed them.

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

- The childminder has strong partnerships with parents and other providers. She shares information with parents and gathers information from them when their children first start to attend her setting. This helps her to plan effectively for their individual needs from the outset. Parents say that the childminder puts the children at the heart of everything she does and that she is the kindest and most dedicated childminder. Parents feel that they are well informed about their children's progress and very happy with what the childminder provides.
- The childminder provides a broad range of learning experiences and opportunities which children thoroughly enjoy. Children use a wide range of resources to make 'monsters' from play dough. The childminder gives them lots of praise and encouragement as they use sticks and cardboard tubes to create a monster. Children smile with pride and show high levels of confidence and self-esteem. They learn many useful skills which prepare them successfully in readiness for school.
- Children love looking at books and listening to stories. The childminder involves them well as she reads them a story. She encourages children to show her their 'terrible claws' and talks to them about the characters in the pictures. Although the childminder uses books and stories to introduce written words, occasionally she misses opportunities to encourage older children to link sounds to letters, to

extend their learning even further.

- The childminder sensitively follows children's individual care routines. For example, she supports them very successfully to manage their personal care tasks independently. She sings songs with younger children as she attends to their personal care needs, which supports them to feel safe and secure.
- The childminder is highly successful at helping children to gain an exceptionally strong insight into understanding people and families beyond their own. For example, they get involved in the Christmas tree festival and the 'look for a book' event in the village. They support local charities which have a special meaning to people they meet, such as 'wear a hat day' in support of cancer. This builds children's confidence and encourages their tolerance and respect of differences and being kind and respectful to one another.
- The childminder reflects on her practice well and identifies areas where she can make further improvements. She has started to use sign language with children, including when singing songs, which has had a positive impact on their communication and language. The childminder has identified that children do not have as many opportunities to use and learn about technology, so she has started to increase her resources and her confidence to support children even further in this area.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a good knowledge of child protection issues and is aware of her role and responsibilities to keep children safe from harm. She can identify the signs or symptoms which may be a cause for concern and knows who to report to if she has any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder carries out thorough risk assessments on her home and for any outings she takes with children. She supervises children appropriately and encourages them to think about their own safety. For example, she encourages them to tidy away toys and resources, so they have plenty of floor space to play safely.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide more opportunities for older children to link sounds to letters
- develop opportunities further for children to use and develop their understanding of technology.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY277912
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	10125547
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	14
Date of previous inspection	12 August 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in Ilminster, Somerset. She operates Monday to Friday from 7am to 6pm, for most of the year. On occasions, her daughter works with her as her assistant. The childminder holds a degree in early childhood studies.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Michelle Heimsoth

Inspection activities

- The childminder gave the inspector a tour of the premises. She talked about children's learning and progress, and how she delivers the curriculum.
- The inspector and the childminder observed children during activities and completed a follow-up discussion about children's learning and development.
- The inspector read parental feedback and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation.

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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