

Childminder report

Inspection date: 1 November 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder's caring and friendly manner makes children feel welcome and happy in her home. Children form close and beneficial relationships with her and enjoy her company. The childminder promptly helps children and fulfils any care needs they have. She patiently offers children lots of support and praise. They take on challenges and do things for themselves. They persevere well with the childminder's encouragement. For example, they get their boots on to go outside, cut up their fruit at snack time and tidy up the toys. Children gain confidence in their abilities and acquire a good range of skills to prepare them for their future. Parents comment that the childminder is offering well-rounded experiences, and that they are grateful for everything the childminder does for their children.

The childminder is experienced and knows how children learn. She outlines what they need to learn next and focuses her planned activities and support on their learning needs. Children are taught how to keep themselves healthy and learn the importance of taking care of their bodies. The childminder provides them with a healthy diet and water to drink. Children have fun exploring a pretend dentist set and show good knowledge of healthy practices, as they proudly talk about their routines at home and act out brushing their teeth. The childminder uses pictures and discussion to help young children think about healthy food items and they knowledgeably talk about the fruit and vegetables they like.

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

- The childminder assesses children's progress regularly. She identifies any gaps in children's development and makes plans to help them to achieve their next goals. She has strong partnerships with parents. They appreciate the childminder's regular messages and extensive conversations that give them a really clear picture of what their child is doing. The childminder also works closely with other settings that children attend, to ensure there is consistent support across all aspects of children's lives.
- The childminder supports children's language well. She gets down to children's level, sensitively joining their play and extending their learning. She asks young children questions to encourage their speech. They name colours, begin to count and recognise shapes. The childminder also models words and repeats the correct pronunciation to help children develop their vocabulary and the clarity of their speech further.
- The childminder offers well-organised areas, both inside and outdoors, to motivate children to explore. They build their physical skills well. They successfully manoeuvre little trikes and coordinate their movements riding the see-saw or playing with balls. Children confidently explore and play with objects that interest them. They build with construction materials and mould play

dough. However, occasionally the childminder does not make the most of opportunities to engage all children fully in activities and develop their concentration and learning as much as possible.

- The childminder takes children out into the local area to offer them different experiences and develop their confidence in new situations. She meets with other childminders and visits play-based groups, so the children can mix with other children of similar age and progress their social skills. They also regularly attend a community enterprise café, where children benefit from opportunities to meet people of different ages and with a range of different needs. They develop their understanding and appreciation of the diverse world in which they live.
- The childminder manages young children's behaviour well. She helps children share resources and take turns with toys. She ensures that she promptly reminds children about boundaries in place for their safety. However, the childminder does not always offer explanations for these, to help children understand fully and then learn from these experiences.
- The childminder continues to develop her practice. She has memberships with professional associations which she uses to undertake training. She has links with other local childminders to help her keep up with changes to guidance and gain good practice ideas. She thinks about what she provides for children and gains the views of parents to help her outline how she can improve her practice and provision further.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a secure understanding of child protection issues and a thorough awareness of how to report concerns to protect children's welfare. She keeps up to date with the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures and undertakes training to refresh her knowledge. The childminder keeps her home clean and well maintained. She ensures that the play equipment is in good condition and appropriate for the ages of the children. She is vigilant as children explore and gives them prompt reminders on safe practices, to ensure they stay safe as they play.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- adapt activities and the support offered, to engage children fully and develop their concentration and learning as much as possible
- provide children with clearer explanations to extend their understanding, help them think about their actions and learn from their experiences more effectively.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY368034
Local authority	Bath and North East Somerset Council
Inspection number	10235177
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 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	20 February 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Bath. She operates 7.30am to 5pm, Monday to Thursday, all year round. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Rachel Howell

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection of the setting since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provision.
- The inspector viewed the areas used for childminding and discussed with the childminder how she implements the educational programmes for the children.
- The childminder and the inspector evaluated the effectiveness of an activity together.
- The inspector observed the children and the childminder and spoke with them at appropriate times during the inspection.
- Parents shared their views of the childminder's provision with the inspector.
- Relevant documentation was reviewed by the inspector including suitability checks and paediatric first-aid qualifications, and the childminder's safeguarding procedures were discussed.

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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