

Childminder Report

Inspection date

14 May 2015

Previous inspection date

10 September 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder uses effective planning and assessment processes to identify children's achievements and plan activities using their next steps.
- The childminder and assistant have a secure understanding of appropriate safeguarding procedures to follow should they have concerns, to help them promote children's welfare. Following social media training, the childminder is clear about safeguarding and data protection issues when online.
- Children feel secure and welcome because of the warm and caring relationships they form with the childminder and assistant. As a result, all children are confident during their play and interactions.
- The childminder and assistant routinely introduce mathematical concepts during children's self-chosen play, such as counting the legs on toy animals. This supports children's mathematical development effectively.
- The childminder takes children on regular outings, to help them learn about the world around them.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder and assistant do not consistently provide children with enough time, when asking challenging questions, for them to think about and consider their thoughts and responses.
- The childminder does not always use singing and music to extend children's learning in line with their next steps, for example, counting, vocabulary and their exploration of movement and pretend play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with more time to consider their responses to questioning, to promote their thinking skills further
- provide more opportunities for singing and music throughout the day to extend children's counting and vocabulary, and encourage their exploration of movement and pretend play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's interactions as they played with the childminder and assistant.
- The inspector took into account the written views of parents.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and assistant, which included safeguarding procedures, systems to monitor children's learning and development, and continued professional development.
- The inspector sampled a selection of the childminder's documents, including policies and procedures, training certificates and planning records.

Inspector

Sarah Madge

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The childminder provides a good range of resources and activities that promote children's development effectively. She participates in children's play to extend their learning; for example, she prompts children to dress, feed and care for dolls. This supports children's personal and social skills. Children are fully engaged in activities and are able to confidently select what they wish to play with next, which promotes their independence. The range of learning experiences helps children make good progress in their learning, which prepares them well for the move to school. The childminder and assistant support children's communication and language through lots of discussions; however, they do not always pause after asking questions to allow children the time to consider their responses. In addition, the childminder sometimes misses opportunities to engage children further through music and singing. Parents receive regular detailed information regarding children's experiences and achievements. This helps parents continue children's learning at home, and promotes consistency in children's care and education.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

The childminder has a good awareness of children's individual needs and meets these well. She follows children's personal routines, so they are content and comfortable. Frequent outings provide children with the opportunity to practise their physical skills when exploring different environments during local group sessions. Children behave well and eagerly follow the childminder's instructions, such as putting food packages in the bin and placing used dishes in the sink. They demonstrate their growing independence and willingly wipe their own nose and wash their own hands. This shows how the childminder helps prepare children emotionally and physically for school. Children enjoy nutritious snacks and meals, which promote healthy diets and lifestyles.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The childminder has a secure understanding of her responsibilities to promote children's welfare and development effectively. She regularly reviews her risk assessments to ensure her premises are safe. Additionally, children participate in regular fire drills so they learn how to leave the premises quickly and safely in an emergency. The childminder effectively monitors her assistant and evaluates the educational programmes. With her assistant, they discuss their provision to identify how they can develop their practice. They both attend local network meetings to ensure their knowledge of legislation remains up to date. This helps them identify areas for future development, such as finding new ways to share information with parents regarding children's learning. This demonstrates a commitment to driving improvement.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY380696
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	829687
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	10 September 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2008. She lives with her partner who works with her as an assistant, and their two teenage children. The family live in a first floor flat, which is accessed by a flight of stairs, in the Heavitree area of Exeter, Devon. There is a fully enclosed communal garden for outside play. The childminder offers care Monday to Friday from 7am to 7pm, all year round. She offers free early years education to two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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