

Childminder Report

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| Inspection date | 13 May 2015 |
| Previous inspection date | 23 January 2012 |

| 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 | | Outstanding | 1 |
| 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 plans a good range of exciting and challenging learning experiences and activities. She makes accurate assessments of children's progress and uses these effectively to identify what they should be doing next. Consequently, children engage in activities for long periods and make good progress across all areas of learning.
- The childminder forms very strong bonds with the children. The high levels of praise and positive encouragement for their achievements mean that children are exceptionally secure and highly confident learners. This successfully promotes children's emotional readiness for school.
- The childminder has a thorough understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She is clear on her role and responsibility to keep children safe and takes appropriate action to minimise hazards.
- The childminder communicates very well with parents and other providers about children's progress. As a result, children receive consistently high support for their learning in all settings and at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always fully promote children's understanding of healthy eating, for example, through providing fruit and vegetables to use in their role play and encouraging them to prepare their own snacks.
- Occasionally the childminder misses opportunities to extend children's vocabulary. For example, when reading a story about a hermit crab and a shipwreck, the childminder did not explore the meaning of all descriptive words.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's understanding of healthy eating through their role play and daily routines
- make the most of all opportunities to teach children new descriptive words to increase their understanding of the world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's learning records, self-evaluation and policies.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, co-childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents from written comments.

Inspector

Michelle Tuck

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is sound because the childminder has a secure understanding of how children learn through play. Children have fun and show they are motivated and enthusiastic learners. The childminder is close by, promoting their investigative skills as they explore the water play outside, pouring water from one container to another. The childminder supports children well in their mathematical development. For example, she encourages them to recognise and match numerals as they play hopscotch and dominoes. They enthusiastically sang number songs and rhymes, making simple calculations as they count and take one away. The childminder teaches the children about parts of the body as they complete puzzles. They learn where in their bodies they would find the heart and other organs. They learn that muscles and then their skin cover the organs. As a result, children develop key skills for future learning.

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

Children quickly form very strong attachments with the childminder, her co-childminder and each other. They are very happy, showing extremely high confidence and self-esteem. These highly positive relationships mean that children have a very strong sense of belief in their capabilities and face challenges positively. Children have great fun playing outside and engage in well-planned physical play in both the garden and while on outings. They follow thorough hygiene routines, washing their hands before mealtimes and know why this is important to their health. Children learn how to keep themselves safe and help the childminder to tidy away the toys, in order to keep the floor space clear. They practise the emergency evacuation procedure and learn how to cross the road safely.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has a secure understanding of child protection issues and is able to identify possible signs of concern. She is clear on the reporting procedure to follow, which helps her to promote children's safety. The childminder checks how well children are achieving, to find and address any gaps in their learning. She regularly reflects on her practice to identify priorities for improvement that will benefit children the most. She has addressed the weaknesses raised at her last inspection well to improve outcomes for children, especially children's well-being. The childminder uses the knowledge and skills gained from training to provide children with letter and sound activities to support their communication and language skills. Parents are very happy with the progress that their children are making. They comment that their children have grown in confidence and their speech is developing well.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY434460 |
| Local authority | Somerset |
| Inspection number | 823989 |
| Type of provision | Childminder |
| Registration category | Childminder |
| Age range of children | 0 - 8 |
| Total number of places | 6 |
| Number of children on roll | 5 |
| Name of provider | |
| Date of previous inspection | 23 January 2012 |
| Telephone number | |

The childminder registered in 2011. She works jointly with another childminder from the co-childminder's home in South Cadbury, Somerset. The childminding service operates each weekday, throughout the year, with the exception of Christmas and bank holidays. The childminder holds a Level 3 qualification in early years, and has experience of working in children's day care.

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