

Childminder Report

Inspection date	22 May 2015
Previous inspection date	12 April 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
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		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder has an in-depth and comprehensive knowledge of how to keep children safe. She follows robust risk assessment processes to ensure children play in a safe environment. There are thorough safeguarding procedures; training ensures that the childminder has an excellent understanding of her responsibility to protect children should she have any concerns about their welfare.
- The exceptionally strong commitment to training is commendable. The childminder is currently working towards a childcare qualification to help her improve her practice. She attends regular and ongoing training, which enables her to offer exciting and challenging activities across all areas of learning to improve outcomes for children, especially their communication and language.
- The childminder uses a detailed and sharply focused evaluation process to review her practice. She organises highly effective methods to review learning opportunities for children and the progress they make.
- This experienced and dedicated childminder has a robust knowledge of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has high expectations of herself and the children in her care. Her secure understanding of how children learn and develop means children flourish in a highly innovative, motivating and nurturing provision.
- The childminder provides an excellent stimulating and vibrant environment with an extremely high focus on promoting children's independence, and communication and language development. The inspiring environment and outstanding teaching prepare children exceptionally well for school or other settings.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to see and refer to print in the outdoor area, to support their continuous learning when outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at play, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector sampled a wide range of paperwork, including the childminder's self-evaluation form, her policies and procedures, risk assessments, suitability documents and children's online learning journals.
- The inspector discussed the provision with the childminder and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sought the views of parents through discussion, letters of referral and parent questionnaires.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.

Inspector

Shirelle Norris

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is excellent because the childminder has an exceptional knowledge of the learning and development needs of the children in her care. She plans activities that significantly challenge children and she demonstrates high expectations for them. As a result, children make rapid progress from their starting points. The childminder teaches children letters and sounds exceptionally well, and raises their keen interest in stories. For example, she encouraged children to point to words, sound out letters and repeat phrases from the story. The childminder extends children's learning at every opportunity, skilfully adapting her teaching for varying abilities and ages. She uses mathematical language to help children learn about different concepts as they play. The childminder celebrates different festivals with children and, through highly effective questions, children learn about the world around them. There are fewer opportunities for children to see and refer to print when outdoors to promote their continuous learning outside.

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

The childminder promotes children's emotional well-being exceptionally well. She uses her excellent understanding of each child's individual needs to provide a highly nurturing environment. The childminder's sensitive and consistent support for children develops their self-esteem and confidence and, as a result, children demonstrate strong attachments to the childminder. Children are highly confident and ask questions in the supportive and warm environment. They choose what they would like to eat for snack and the childminder encourages them to prepare this. This promotes independence as they learn to use tools safely. The childminder provides a nutritious menu and supports children to grow their own vegetables, successfully helping to develop their understanding of healthy eating. Children learn about the importance of exercise when playing outdoors. The childminder has a highly positive approach in supporting children's behaviour. They are learning to take supervised risks in their play as they explore. As a result, children are beginning to be aware of their own safety.

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

The childminder demonstrates a highly competent approach to all aspects of her work. She has addressed the recommendations from the previous inspection very well, which results in highly effective evaluation and maximised learning opportunities outdoors. The childminder has excellent links with early years settings to enhance children's learning experiences. Her exceptional partnership with parents, and the effectiveness with which she promotes and monitors children's learning and development, are inspirational.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY418075
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	832482
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	12 April 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2010. She lives in Frome, Somerset. The childminder cares for children all year round. The childminder has strong links with the local childminding community and early years settings.

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