

Childminder Report

Inspection date	10 February 2016
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children respond happily to the friendly childminder who has a reassuring and calm approach. This effectively supports children's emotional well-being.
- The childminder provides a good variety of purposeful play experiences that support children's interests and effectively encourage their participation in learning. Children make good progress from their starting points.
- Children benefit from lots of praise and encouragement. The childminder maintains consistent boundaries and children feel secure, are confident and play happily together.
- The childminder forms positive partnerships with parents. She actively seeks their views on their children's development from the start. She keeps parents well informed of their children's daily activities and encourages their ongoing involvement.
- The childminder promotes children's physical development effectively. Children enjoy a good range of outings and develop a positive enjoyment of exercise.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder misses some opportunities to extend children's sense of identity and understanding of similarities and differences between their lives and those of others.
- Overall, the childminder reflects well on her practice, but she does not always more accurately and precisely assess the effectiveness of all aspects of her practice and identify further areas to develop in the pursuit of excellence.

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 develop their sense of identity and understanding of how others live
- strengthen evaluation systems further to more accurately identify areas of weaker practice, to tackle and drive continual improvements.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's interactions in play indoors.
- The inspector sampled documentation, such as operational policies, procedures and required records, including those relating to suitability.
- The inspector took into account the written views of parents.
- The inspector discussed children's development with the childminder and viewed their assessments.
- The inspector discussed self-evaluation with the childminder.

Inspector

Mary Daniel

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has completed safeguarding training to update her knowledge of how to protect children. She understands her responsibility to follow procedures should a concern arise about a child, to promote their welfare. The childminder attends childcare forums and workshops to update her skills. This has supported her well in providing a broader range of sensory play to help children develop their creative ideas. Children benefit from the continuous approach the childminder forms with their parents and other settings they attend. The childminder shares her assessments of children's achievements and monitors their ongoing progress well.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses her observations of children's play effectively to identify their next steps of learning. She plans motivating activities that actively support children's interests. For example, children keenly explore different textures, such as noodles, mud, fir cones and grass. The childminder provides good opportunities for children to learn about the natural world and changing seasons. They enjoy finding out what birds eat and make simple bird-feeders. They go on walks to look and listen for birds. The childminder supported their vocabulary well as they talked about animals that hibernate in the winter. Children become absorbed in activities and enjoy their play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and content. The childminder follows clear routines and children feel safe in her care. Children enjoy playing outside. They develop good coordination and balance as they climb, swing and slide on equipment at a local play park. Children have great fun jumping in puddles or going on nature walks in nearby woods. The childminder is a good role model for children and they learn to be kind and share their toys. Children develop positive attitudes to keeping themselves and others safe. For example, they learn how to cross roads safely with the childminder. When at toddler groups, they enjoy meeting the police officers who visit and talk to them about keeping safe from harm.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop a positive interest in learning and make good progress towards the early learning goals. They become confident communicators and actively develop their literacy and language skills. For example, toddlers listen to a favourite story and start to repeat the animal names and noises they hear the childminder say. They show great interest in how an interactive book works and eagerly turn the pages, and press buttons to activate a duck, pig or cow noise. Children develop good independence; for instance, they learn to feed themselves competently from a young age. Children gain the necessary skills to prepare them for future learning and their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY481870
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	999401
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 7
Total number of places	4
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2014. She lives in Frome, Somerset. The childminder is available to care for children Monday to Friday, during term time only.

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