

Childminder Report

Inspection date

6 March 2017

Previous inspection date

3 November 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children develop exceptionally warm, trusting relationships with the childminder. She is highly effective at helping children feel emotionally secure and happy in her care.
- The childminder provides children with exciting play experiences indoors that motivate their learning very well. Children make good progress and enjoy their play.
- The childminder evaluates her practice well to make positive improvements. For example, regular evaluation has enabled her to attend regular training. This has led her to encourage children more to explore and access resources independently indoors.
- The childminder has positive partnerships with parents. For example, she works well with them to support a consistent approach to their children's care and learning needs.
- The childminder encourages children's socialisation skills exceptionally well and they play very happily together. Children develop extremely positive attitudes to respecting the needs of others and clearly understand how to be kind and helpful.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the childminder monitors children's progress, she does not use her assessments as effectively as possible, to consistently track children's achievements more precisely across all aspects of their learning.
- At times, the childminder does not make the most use of the good range of resources she has available and misses opportunities for children to learn how print provides information, to help children who learn better outdoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor children's progress more consistently, to accurately assess their achievements and extend their continued learning further across all areas
- support children who learn better outdoors to access a wider range of resources and help them to become more familiar with print and how this carries meaning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder and children's interactions indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector viewed documentation, such as operational policies, procedures and required records, including those for suitability.
- The inspector took into account the written views of parents seen at the inspection.
- The inspector discussed children's development with the childminder and viewed children's learning journals.
- 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 a good awareness of safeguarding and understands the procedures to follow should a concern arise about a child's well-being. The childminder is committed to developing her practice and attends regular training opportunities. For example, she has completed a recognised childcare qualification that has helped her gain a broader awareness of how children learn through play. In addition, she has attended training that helped her understand how to work effectively with other professionals involved in the care, learning and development of two-year-old children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder gets to know children well and understands their individual learning styles. She encourages children's early awareness of technology effectively. For example, children excitedly press buttons on the interactive toy fire station to activate flashing lights and sounds. The childminder supports children's awareness of nature well. For example, children see a frog in the garden. With the childminder's good support, they look at how it moves around and find out where it lives. Children talk about the seeds they see inside a pepper and help the childminder to plant these, telling her 'plants need sun and water' to grow. Children are curious learners and enthusiastically press down on a hole-punch to make holes in a piece of paper.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children thrive in the childminder's welcoming home and benefit from her exceptionally nurturing, friendly manner. For example, she skilfully recognises when younger children need more reassurance to participate, particularly in larger groups, and sensitively gives them exceptional levels of support. Children are extremely confident. For example, they sing a favourite nursery rhyme, and positively beam with delight as the childminder praises their efforts. Children gain an extremely positive attitude to healthy lifestyles and enjoy an excellent range of activities that help develop their core strength and physical well-being. For example, children are very energetic and very competently climb up nets and whizz down a zip wire at a local park. Children gain excellent balance and control of their movements, for example, when they walk across a 'wobbly bridge'.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain good skills that prepare them effectively for going to pre-school and school. For example, younger children concentrate well as they start to carefully cut up fruit for snacks. Older children start to take responsibility, such as putting out chairs and helping to lay the table at mealtimes. They willingly help the younger ones in their play. Children quickly gain confidence in using language and describe their ideas well. For example, they enthusiastically mixed the bubbly water and poured this into a bowl, excitedly telling the childminder they had made 'tomato soup'.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY391002
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1071147
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	3 November 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2009 and lives in Bishops Lydeard, Somerset. She cares for children Monday to Thursday, all year round. The childminder receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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