

Childminder Report

Inspection date	14 September 2017
Previous inspection date	13 May 2015

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		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder provides a good range of play experiences that engages children well and successfully supports their ongoing development. Children make good progress in their learning.
- Children are caring and sensitive towards others. For example, when the older ones see others upset, they give them a cuddle. They share toys willingly with the younger ones.
- The childminder recognises children's individual routines well. For instance, she knows when younger children are tired and settles them easily for their sleep.
- The childminder liaises frequently with other professionals involved in children's care and learning, and develops her knowledge of ways to improve practice and support children's specific educational needs very well. For example, she has introduced picture boards to encourage the language and communication skills of all children.
- Children respond very positively to the friendly, caring childminder. They are settled and content, and develop a positive sense of emotional security in her care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the childminder provides a good range of toys, she does not always consider the accessibility of some play resources to fully extend the younger children's interests and support their independent choices and learning further.
- Although the childminder supervises children well, she occasionally misses opportunities to help them understand about the consequences of their actions and how to use toys and resources safely.

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 use of resources more closely to fully extend their interests and enable them to consistently make independent choices to support their ongoing learning and development
- provide more guidance to help children learn about keeping themselves and others safe in their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's interactions in play indoors and outdoors, and viewed their learning assessments.
- The inspector viewed documentation, such as operational policies, procedures and required records, including first aid and insurance certificates.
- The inspector took into account the spoken and written views of parents.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder and discussed children's learning and development
- The inspector viewed the childminder's self-evaluation form and discussed the improvements she has made to her practice.

Inspector

Mary Daniel

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has attended safeguarding training and understands what to do if a concern arises. The childminder continues to evaluate practice well with her co-childminder and identifies where to make further improvements. For example, she has introduced better ways of encouraging children's understanding of foods that are good for them, such as using real fruit and vegetables in the role-play area. The childminder forms positive relationships with parents, who state that they feel reassured by the care and activities provided for their children. The childminder monitors children's progress closely in liaison with her co-childminder, and supports children's needs consistently.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder encourages children's imagination well in their play. For example, older children like trying on the different dressing-up clothes and pretend they are knights, princesses or rabbits with, 'Furry ears'. Younger children happily cuddle their dolls and cover them with a blanket as they rock them to sleep. The childminder supports children's enjoyment of songs and rhymes effectively. For instance, older children eagerly join in with repeated refrains of songs and are motivated to use the associated resources for the familiar rhymes. They gain the confidence to sing a favourite song about sheep by themselves. Children enjoy going to toddler groups with the childminder and gain confidence away from their main care setting. For example, they separate easily from the childminder and join in happily playing with the variety of play experiences offered.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder encourages children's awareness of healthy living effectively. For example, children enjoy healthy snacks of fruit and vegetables, and help the childminder grow foods, such as runner beans, tomatoes and sweetcorn. Children are willing helpers and learn to be careful using tools. For instance, they help to cut up fruit for their snack and tell the childminder the knife they use is okay as it is, 'Not a very sharp one'. The childminder actively supports children's physical well-being. For example, she takes children to soft-play areas, where they run, jump and climb safely. Children like going for walks locally with the childminder, such as to a country park where they enjoy collecting flowers and leaves in the autumn, and seeing the ducks and geese.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain good skills to help them with their future learning at pre-school and school. They develop good independence skills; for instance, pouring their own drinks and helping to cut up food for their snacks. Older children begin to recognise some written numerals. For instance, they confidently count to five using the numbers on a clock. Younger children enjoy listening to counting rhymes and looking at favourite story books.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY434460
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1095086
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	14
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	13 May 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2011. She works jointly with another childminder from the co-childminder's home in South Cadbury, Somerset. The childminder operates four days each week throughout the year. She receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3.

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