

Childminder report

Inspection date	13 June 2019
Previous inspection date	8 July 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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 and her assistant are kind, caring and responsive to children's personal needs. Children develop secure relationships with them and settle well in the nurturing, homely environment they provide.
- The childminder recognises children's individuality and supports them to develop new skills and have fun. She gives them encouragement and praise, helping to build their confidence. Overall, children are stimulated and challenged effectively through the teaching and support that the childminder and her assistant offer.
- The childminder uses her assessment procedures successfully to outline gaps in children's development. She plans experiences and support to help close these gaps and ensure children make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder sets out her playroom with a varied and well-organised range of stimulating resources and provides interesting activities. They inspire children to choose things for themselves and motivate them to explore and develop their skills.
- Children learn to communicate well. Younger children listen and show their understanding as they respond to questions and follow instructions. Older children chat confidently and take turns in conversation with the childminder or her assistant.
- The childminder does not consistently help parents understand what children need to learn next or gather information on children's achievements at home, to ensure continuity in children's learning.
- At times the childminder and her assistant are not successful in encouraging children to persist with activities when challenges occur.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the two-way sharing of information about children's development with parents, to inform future planning and help provide a consistent approach to the support children receive
- extend the support and encouragement for children to persevere when they encounter challenges and difficulties.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas used for childminding. She talked to the children, the childminder and her assistant at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including the suitability and qualifications of the childminder, policies and procedures, children's development records and planning.
- The inspector observed the children and the childminder. She evaluated the effectiveness of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and their written views by reading their comments in letters.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's risk assessments and her self-evaluation process.

Inspector
Rachel Howell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder and her assistant are aware of the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. They work well as a team. They supervise children effectively and carry out thorough risk assessments of the childminder's home, to ensure children can play safely. The childminder evaluates her practice. She links with other childminders to gain ideas and to help her outline improvements to her provision. The childminder monitors children's progress and supervises the practice of her assistant. She undertakes training to develop her own knowledge and lead that of her assistant, for example in their child protection practice and procedures. The childminder has positive relationships with parents. She keeps them informed about the activities their children are involved in during the day and gives them details of children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children have fun learning through play. They welcome the childminder's involvement and enjoy the attention the childminder and her assistant give them. They both ask children questions as they play to encourage them to talk about things that they see. For instance, children recognise colours, name animals, and count items. Older children talk about the size of things and that containers are full. They are prompted to think and share their understanding. For example, they talk about how things grow, as they plant seeds with the childminder. They jointly agree to put the pot by the window and children knowledgeably say 'so the sun can grow it'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder and her assistant support children's behaviour appropriately. They offer timely reminders about the boundaries in place for children's safety and teach them to share and take turns with toys. They show interest and enthusiasm for what children choose to do and play alongside children as they experiment. Children develop their coordination skills well. They spend time exploring different methods, such as moulding sand, painting with their fingers or brushes, making marks with chalks and fitting construction pieces together. They enjoy making sounds with various musical toys and instruments and eagerly copy the childminder's actions as she does fun exercises and movements to music.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident to make choices about what they would like to do and focus well on things that interest them. Children develop a love of books and really enjoy story time with the childminder's assistant. Older children show their knowledge as they talk about their favourite books and join in with key phrases. Children acquire a good range of skills that prepare them well for their future learning and their eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY442257
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	10075081
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 13
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	28
Date of previous inspection	8 July 2016

The childminder registered in 2012 and lives in Houndstone, Yeovil, Somerset. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She regularly works with an assistant. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for children aged three and four years.

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