

Childminder report

Inspection date: 25 January 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder provides a welcoming, homely setting. Children are happy as they arrive, and the childminder greets them. Children confidently say goodbye to their parents at the door. They beam with delight as they see their friends, who are eager for them to play. Babies receive lots of cuddles and reassurance from the childminder. They respond with big smiles as she engages them in a game of peekaboo by hiding her face with a coloured scarf. Children thrive through positive interaction with the childminder. They show that they have formed strong bonds with her.

The childminder knows the children well. She has high expectations for children's learning. Children display excellent behaviour. The childminder supports children to develop their social skills. For example, the childminder encourages the children to work together to sort different-shaped eggs into an egg box. Children take turns fitting the eggs together. They match the correct shape on the bottom of the egg to fit in the bottom of the egg box. Children are building special friendships and show great affection for one another. They offer each other a friendly cuddle and say that their friends are 'amazing' and 'super funny'.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder promotes children's communication and language skills. She models language by speaking clearly and calmly to children to support their understanding during play. For example, children join in a picture card game with her, to pair the correct animal head with the correct animal body. The childminder introduces words such as 'together' and 'whole' to help children to understand the purpose of the game. The childminder praises children when they pair the animals' body parts correctly. Children giggle with excitement as they count and name the animals that they have made. The children are developing their vocabulary and making good progress in this area.
- The childminder has a secure understanding of how children learn. She works closely with her assistant to observe children and monitor their progress. The childminder and her assistant plan activities for children to achieve their next steps in learning. Children take part in weekly music groups, which help them to develop a sense of rhythm and rhyme. Children attend local toddler groups where they interact in large-group activities. This helps children to further develop their social skills. Overall, the childminder has a well-resourced setting. This supports children's learning across the curriculum. However, some toys and equipment for younger children are not freely accessible and they are less able to make their own choices during play.
- Children demonstrate high levels of concentration and engagement during activities. For example, older children press dough into ice-cream moulds. They

develop their imaginative skills as they use scissors to cut the dough into smaller pieces. They make toppings and 'sprinkles' to add to their ice creams. Babies develop their hand muscles as they grasp the dough to explore its texture.

Children demonstrate a positive attitude to learning.

- The childminder supports children to live a healthy lifestyle. Children have daily access to fresh air and exercise. The childminder plans regular outings to the park, soft-play centres and the local farm. These challenge children in supportive risk taking. Children build their self-esteem as they develop their physical skills. Children broaden their experiences beyond their usual environment. They gain a deeper understanding of the world around them.
- Generally, children are developing their independence skills. They wash their own hands and learn to feed themselves at mealtimes. However, at times, the childminder completes some tasks for children. She does not always consider how to support children to learn to do things for themselves, such as encouraging children to wipe their own noses.
- The childminder works closely with parents to ensure that children have familiar routines. She provides a calm place for children to relax. They listen to sounds, such as ocean waves, as they settle down to sleep. Parents speak highly of the childminder. They say that children are happy and are 'fantastically well looked after'. The childminder provides regular updates on children's progress and ideas on how to extend children's learning at home. This supports children's continuity of care, learning and development.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder and her assistant complete regular, ongoing safeguarding training. The childminder is alert to the signs and symptoms that may indicate that a child is at risk of harm or abuse. She understands the policies and procedures to follow for reporting any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder has a good understanding of how to keep children safe. She uses safety equipment, such as monitors, and carries out regular checks on sleeping children. This ensures that children sleep safely in her care. The childminder completes risk assessments in the learning environment and on outings. This enables her to minimise potential hazards and ensures that children have a safe environment to play.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- support children to do more tasks for themselves to develop their independence skills further
- increase the opportunities for younger children to access toys and equipment, to enable them to develop their interests and extend their learning during play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2599828
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	10262835
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	17
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2020 and operates from the town of Bishopsteignton. The setting is known as 'Little Cherubs Childcare'. The childminder works from Tuesday to Thursday, 8am to 5.30pm, all year round. She works with an assistant at the premises. The childminder is in receipt of funding to provide free early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Hannah Williamson

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in her evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector carried out a learning walk with the childminder to discuss how she supports the children's learning and development.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children, and considered the impact on their learning.
- The inspector held discussions with parents and read parent testimonies to take account of their views of the setting.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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