

Childminder report

Inspection date: 3 April 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

Children are well cared for by this warm and friendly childminder. They are very well behaved and benefit from good relationships with other children. Babies smile at each other as they play. Older children confidently access resources independently. For example, they find crayons and pens to make 'rubblings' on different objects. They carefully observe the world around them and make drawings of things they can see, such as flowers. The childminder praises their efforts.

Children spend most of their day outdoors. They play in the large, enclosed garden with lots of interesting areas to explore. They develop their imaginations, for instance by pretending they are badgers or sailing in a boat. Children become immersed in their activities, for instance jumping for long periods at a time in muddy puddles. Babies find out about the world through exploring natural sensory objects, such as pine cones and moss. They happily make music by banging pots and pans with old kitchen utensils. The childminder sensitively supports children as they play.

Children develop their physical skills well. Older children climb on large nets and play on swings secured to trees. Younger children explore with the help of the childminder. Children of all ages play alongside each other and happily share equipment.

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

- The childminder is patient and kind towards the children. She cuddles babies when they need reassurance. She makes older children laugh by being silly with them. For example, she pretends a helicopter in the sky is an elephant to make them laugh. She encourages the children to have fun and develop their imaginations as they learn.
- The childminder develops children's problem-solving skills particularly well. She uses questioning to develop their ideas and find their own answers to a problem. She encourages children to make comparisons to known ideas and make predictions about what will happen next. For instance, she asks older children, 'Which one will be the most successful?'
- Healthy lifestyles are well promoted. The childminder encourages the children to be active throughout the day. For example, she supports younger children as they learn to walk by holding both of their hands. She teaches the children how to grow their own food in the large raised beds and polytunnel.
- Children learn how to keep themselves safe. The childminder teaches children how to stay safe around the campfire by the use of simple rules, such as to stay sitting down on the seats and away from the fire. The childminder helps children

to take managed risks when climbing. She teaches children about plants which are safe to touch. Children are supervised at all times.

- The childminder builds well on children's existing knowledge. She uses questioning to help older children talk about what they already know. For instance, they discuss how to build a wormery when children decide to build one to support their play. She also speaks to the younger children in sentences and talks to them about new ideas. However, she does not always teach them new individual words for everyday objects, which would help the next steps of their learning.
- The childminder provides good support for children who speak English as an additional language. She uses words from children's home language to help them to feel confident. She also provides bilingual storybooks to help them to be a part of group story times.
- Parents speak highly of the childminder. They appreciate how she helps their children to grow in confidence and develop resilience. Parents are particularly pleased with the good progress they see their children make. However, they are not always as well informed as they could be of their child's next steps to help them support learning at home.
- Leadership and management are good. The childminder identifies areas for her own development and seeks out relevant training. She monitors her assistant's teaching and is currently supporting them in gaining a level 3 childcare qualification. In addition, she works effectively alongside a co-childminder to ensure children make good progress in all areas of the early years foundation stage curriculum.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder takes keeping her safeguarding knowledge up to date seriously. She also ensures her assistant attends regular safeguarding training. The childminder has a good knowledge of a wide range of safeguarding concerns and understands what to do if she suspects a child is being abused. She undertakes frequent risk assessments of the premises. She teaches children how to identify plants and animals which may cause them harm. The childminder understands the need to follow safer recruitment procedures when employing assistants.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- extend the support for the youngest children to develop their speech and language even further
- enhance the sharing of information with parents to help them support children's learning at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2686925
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	10260148
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	11
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2022 and is located in Launceston, Cornwall. She operates from 8am to 5.30pm Monday to Thursday, all year round except for family holidays. The childminder works alongside a co-childminder and with an assistant. She holds a relevant level 3 qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Leanne Edge

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 provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises their early years provision, including the aims and rationale for their early years curriculum.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views on the setting with the inspector.
- 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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