

Childminder report

Inspection date: 4 September 2025

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 has made a warm, homely environment, and children are secure and safe in her care. She develops strong bonds with children and regularly offers them reassuring cuddles. New children quickly settle into her care. Children of all ages enjoy playing with the childminder and often invite her to join their games and activities. The childminder has developed a good curriculum that prepares children well for the next stage of learning. She offers activities in a well-organised sequence. This helps children build on what they already know and can do. Children make good progress in their learning and development.

Toddlers and pre-school children develop their balance and coordination by dancing with colourful scarves to music. They build an understanding of how to move their bodies to music and explore rhythm. Babies build core strength and balance as they learn to walk. Children are curious and kind, inviting each other to join in their play. The childminder helps children learn about nature and the local community. She takes them on regular visits to the local town and shops, where they help choose their own snacks. They pick blackberries in the local woods and learn how the fruit grows and how to wash it before eating.

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

- There is a focus on helping children grow their creative skills and imagination. Children pretend to make ice cream and suggest different flavours for the childminder to choose from. Older children enjoy singing songs they have made up with the childminder. At snack times, they love to sing their 'chicken and banana' song and do fun movements to the music. The childminder helps children express their ideas, and she shows them that their opinions matter.
- The childminder supports children in developing their physical skills. Older children develop balance and coordination while running and jumping. They experience feeling out of breath and build their heart strength. Children improve their hand strength and manipulation skills with a lock-and-key activity. They learn to open latches and close chain locks. Toddlers develop their coordination as they use spoons to scoop rice into containers. Children play games for long periods, showing good levels of concentration.
- Children are curious learners. The childminder models good manners, supporting children to understand when to say 'please' and 'thank you'. Older children listen to instructions. For example, they respond positively when it is time to wash their hands before eating their snack. However, when children struggle to share, the childminder says 'no', but she doesn't help children understand how their actions have an impact on others.
- The childminder helps children develop their communication skills. Children are confident speakers, and young children build long sentences that sometimes

consist of eight words. Children confidently explain what they know and can do. In an activity involving toy sea animals, young children find and name creatures like 'octopus', 'lobster' and 'manta ray'. The childminder talks to the children in English and sometimes in German. She helps them grow their vocabulary in both languages. For example, young children name a toy construction vehicle, calling it a 'digger' in English and a 'Bagger' in German.

- The childminder reviews and reflects on her work to identify areas for improvement in the provision she offers. She stays up to date with the latest developments in the early years sector and maintains good links with other professionals, exchanging ideas and best practice. However, when children attend multiple settings or start school, the childminder does not develop relationships with other providers to best support children in their learning and development.
- Parents' feedback is positive. They report that children make good progress and that communication is effective. Parents feed back that they feel well informed about the activities their children are involved in. They comment that children enjoy their time with the childminder and recommend the childminder to others.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- further develop skills to teach children about regulating their behaviour so that they learn how their actions affect others
- work more closely with other settings that children attend to provide consistency in children's learning and development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2731758
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	10399754
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	1 to 8
Total number of places	4
Number of children on roll	11
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2023 and lives in Ivybridge, Devon. She operates from 7.30am to 5pm, Monday to Thursday for early years children, and provides wrap-around-care only for older children on Friday from 7.30am to 9am and 3pm to 5pm. The childminder operates all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She provides government-funded childcare places.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Victoria Jones

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the childminder and the children during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of the curriculum during activities and assessed the impact this has on the children's learning.
- The inspector and the childminder carried out a joint observation.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of the childminder and people living in their home.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The inspector spoke to parents, read their feedback during the inspection and took account of their views.

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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