

Childminder report

Inspection date: 2 March 2020

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children have a wonderful time with the childminder and thrive in her exemplary care. They are extremely happy and secure in the highly stimulating environment. The childminder has excellent knowledge and teaching skills in early years education. Children show immense interest in their activities and develop excellent levels of concentration. With great success the childminder inspires children to have a passion for books and storytelling. The childminder brings stories to life for children with the use of puppets and other items that link to the story. Children use different tones of voice with enthusiasm for each character that they play. They understand the order of the story and confidently take turns to join in.

The childminder skilfully engages and involves children throughout all activities. They have rich conversations about what they are doing and what they remember. For example, they play a very imaginative game of being in a café. Children choose from a menu and make lists on the clipboards as they take an order. They are curious and enjoy their interesting discoveries, which create spontaneous learning opportunities. For instance, children choose a tape measure and ask the childminder, 'Will you measure me?' They have tremendous fun as they take turns to lie down and find out 'who is the biggest'. Children learn to read numbers and they make mathematical comparisons as they play.

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

- The childminder is meticulous in her assessment of children's progress. She takes immediate and effective steps to address any areas of children's development that need additional input. The childminder involves parents with great success in working together to support children. As a result, children make rapid progress from their starting points.
- The childminder supports children's communication and language development extremely well. She uses various teaching methods to enhance children's learning and development. For example, children learn to use simple sign language and they have fun as they practise letter sounds. Children very quickly grow in confidence as they develop excellent listening and language skills.
- Children behave exceptionally well. The childminder uses everyday activities with excellent effect so that children's learning is continuous. For example, older children declare that they can have the 'sharp scissors', while younger children have plastic scissors to be safe. At snack time, children show excellent independence as they carefully slice their fruit. The childminder skilfully extends the activity as she successfully encourages children to work out 'quarters and halves'.
- The childminder has exceptional organisational skills. She has a wealth of accessible and clearly labelled resources for children to choose from. The

childminder uses her excellent knowledge of children's interests, to build on what they know and can do. As an example, the childminder extends the range of resources in the garden to enhance sensory and imaginative play opportunities for children. Children show great enthusiasm as they create paintings with natural materials, as an alternative to paintbrushes.

- Children thoroughly enjoy the frequent and varied outings, which provide exciting opportunities. They happily recall visits to the beach, marina and maritime museum. The childminder involves children in local events and various traditions, to extend on their life experiences. Children understand the childminder's high expectations of behaviour and safety. For example, they know that they need to stay in her sight and to always ask if it is safe to stroke a dog.
- The childminder makes excellent use of her extensive training to further develop and enhance her practice. She successfully strives to make improvements to benefit the children even more. For example, following a course on outdoor play, the childminder provided guttering which children used and worked together with to form channels. The childminder takes inspiration from various speakers and shares information with parents, for instance, to support children's mathematical development further.
- Arrangements to work in partnership with others are excellent. The childminder has close working relationships with other settings that children attend. Their sharing of information successfully supports continuity of care and learning for children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is proactive in organising safeguarding training for herself and other providers. The training provides regular opportunities to update and refresh her thorough understanding of child protection matters. The childminder has a clear awareness of signs which could indicate that children are at risk of harm. This includes the broader areas of safeguarding, such as the 'Prevent' duty and online safety. The childminder knows the procedures to follow should she have concerns, to protect children. The childminder is highly conscientious about the safety of children. She identifies potential risks and takes effective steps to keep children safe in her care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY233727
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	10125904
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	2 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	22 April 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2002. She lives with her partner and adult children on the outskirts of Falmouth, Cornwall. The childminder receives early education funding to provide free places for children aged three and four years. Care is available to children from 8am to 6pm each weekday, during term time only.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Julie Wright

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder and children in their activities, to assess the quality of education.
- The childminder explained her aims and her organisation of her provision.
- The inspector and childminder discussed their joint observations of children and their progress.
- The inspector checked required documentation, including evidence of suitability and qualification certificates.
- The childminder provided written feedback from parents for the inspector to read.

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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