

Childminder Report

Inspection date

22 April 2015

Previous inspection date

15 October 2008

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder skilfully adapts activities to extend challenges in children's learning. She enables all children to take part and has a robust knowledge of their abilities. Children show very positive attitudes to learning because they are excited and enthusiastic in their activities.
- The childminder makes exemplary use of her extensive range of resources and activities. She provides excellent support to children, so they are very happy and busy in play. Consequently, the childminder promotes children's learning and development exceptionally well, both indoors and outdoors.
- The childminder maintains meticulous records of children's development. She is precise in her assessment of starting points and rigorous in her identification of next steps. The childminder successfully involves parents in monitoring children's progress.
- The childminder is highly professional in her organisation of childminding arrangements. She is thorough in her self-evaluation and demonstrates a robust commitment to continuous development.
- The childminder has excellent relationships with children and their families. Parents provide detailed complimentary feedback and have exceptional regard for the childminder's care.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's opportunities to write and make marks in their play when outdoors.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder and children in their indoor and outdoor activities.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder.
- The inspector read feedback from parents and the childminder's self-evaluation form.
- The inspector sampled children's development records.
- The inspector checked safety of the premises and the safeguarding procedures.

Inspector

Julie Wright

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

Children play exceptionally well together and confidently share their ideas. For example, children choose to dress-up and play 'doctors'. They talk animatedly about being poorly, having a temperature and needing a bandage. Imaginative play is very popular, for instance, children show delight on their pretend train journey. They have tickets, a timetable and talk about 'going to London'. The childminder gently intervenes during children's activities to extend further challenge and enhance their play. For example, she asks children how to make pink and orange when mixing paint colours. Each activity is educational and the childminder is very effective in her teaching skills. She takes every opportunity available to promote children's next stage of development.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Children are very cooperative and have exemplary behaviour. Younger children watch older ones with intrigue and copy their actions, such as to learn a dance. Children love to help with tasks and readily help to tidy up, a recommendation from a previous inspection. At snack time, children pour drinks and learn to cut their own fruit, so they develop early independence skills. They talk with the childminder about flavour, texture and scent. Children have great fun in the garden, which provides fascinating learning opportunities. They eagerly explore and discover interesting resources, such as the playhouse, water tray and canopied den. Laminated letter pictures hang in a tree, although these do not reflect children's contributions. Children learn how things grow, for instance, they plant seed potatoes. The childminder supports children's emotional development exceptionally well, so they feel very secure in her care.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

The childminder has completed an extensive range of training since the last inspection. She evaluates her learning thoroughly to ensure it is beneficial and improves practice. For example, the childminder shared information with parents on food presentation and making meals. This helps to promote healthy eating further by enticing children to try a wider range of foods. The childminder completed a higher-level child protection course, which gave her a deeper understanding of safeguarding children. Courses inspire the childminder to extend her resources. For instance, she has a school uniform on the dressing-up rail and photographs of teachers, which prepare children well for their move to school. The childminder works in close partnership with parents and others to support children's development. Parents describe a happy, loving environment where 'children have a wonderful time', and comment on the childminder's 'expertise, patience and professionalism'.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY233727
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	832826
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	15 October 2008
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2002. She lives with her partner and two 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.

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