

Childminder Report

Inspection date

22 July 2015

Previous inspection date

17 February 2009

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder and her assistants develop strong relationships with the children, which result in children being secure and confident in their care.
- The childminder's effective assessment systems enable her to monitor children's progress effectively. This allows her to adapt her planning to ensure that children make good progress across all areas of learning.
- The childminder is proactive in identifying when children need additional support and supporting parents in seeking the necessary help.
- Partnerships with parents are strong, with a good two-way flow of information about children's progress and learning. This enables them to provide children with continuity in their care and learning experiences.
- The childminder uses clear systems to supervise and appraise her assistants' caring skills and understanding of procedures to meet children's needs.
- The childminder keeps up to date through training, support from professional organisations and meetings with other childminders.
- Children are very familiar with the good hygiene practices because they are firmly embedded in the daily routines.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder's planning for activities does not always identify challenging learning intentions for her assistants to implement.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the assistants' understanding of how they can extend children's learning during planned activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home and garden.
- The inspector took account of parents' views, both written and in discussion on the day.
- The inspector and childminder carried out a joint observation and had discussions at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled assessment and planning records, and documentation relating to the welfare requirements.
- The inspector checked documentation relating to the suitability of the childminder, her assistants and her household members.

Inspector

Lynne Bowden

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is good. The childminder provides a range of activities and resources that interest children and support their good progress in all areas of learning. She records children's progress and achievements, with contributions from parents, in their learning journeys, along with their next steps. These provide the basis for frequent reviews of progress, which include the progress checks for two-year-old children. Children thoroughly enjoy exploring a range of materials. The childminder encourages older children to weigh and measure materials, so introducing mathematical language. Young children develop their awareness and understanding of different colours because the assistants encourage them to sort materials by their colours. Children develop their physical skills and delight in chasing and jumping after bubbles. Young children begin to develop coordination as they build sandcastles and attempt to make marks with chalks. However sometimes, the childminder's assistants miss opportunities to develop and extend these activities further.

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

The childminder and her assistants develop warm relationships with the children. This results in young children being secure enough to fall asleep and all children confidently exploring the resources in the childminder's home. The childminder and her assistants are very effective in identifying children who need additional support and working with their parents to address this. Children develop independence and self-care skills. Even very young children attempt to dress themselves for outdoor play and happily go to wash their hands before meals. They learn how to keep themselves safe through their participation in regular fire drills. The childminder and her assistants praise children for positive behaviour, so that children learn to behave well. The childminder promotes healthy eating and encourages children to try a variety of foods. Children's growing communication, independence and social skills prepare them well for their future education.

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

The childminder understands the welfare, and learning and development requirements well. She updates her safeguarding training and ensures that her assistants have a secure understanding of the welfare requirements and their responsibilities to protect children. The childminder monitors the suitability of her assistants, supporting their training and carrying out regular appraisals. The childminder's effective systems to develop her skills have resulted in improved assessment systems, which positively support her in working together with parents.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY242562
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	826476
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	10
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	17 February 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2002. She lives with her husband and three children, one being an adult, in the rural village of Crofthandy, near Redruth in Cornwall. The childminder employs assistants to work with her, including her daughter. She provides funded education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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