

Inspection date	23 March 2015
Previous inspection date	2 December 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 develops warm relationships with the children and is responsive to their views and wishes, which results in children being confident and secure in her home.
- Strong communication and relationships with parents ensure that they all feel well informed, and provide continuity of care and learning.
- The childminder makes very good use of the local environment and amenities, giving children a wide range of experiences and promoting their learning.
- The childminder establishes effective partnerships with other providers and professionals to meet children's needs and support their development.
- The good range of challenging resources and activities that the childminder provides enables children to explore and make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder uses her knowledge, through training, to enhance children's learning experiences. She reflects on her practice and suggestions from a range of sources. She identifies and addresses any areas for development to maintain continuous improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not seek information from parents about their children's development levels to support her in establishing their starting points quickly.
- There is no way for children to monitor how long they have to wait if the childminder reminds them of the need to take turns. There are missed opportunities for the childminder to encourage children to measure weights.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- involve parents in establishing their children's development levels when they first start at the provision
- increase resources enabling children to measure both weights and time, to increase their awareness of mathematical ideas and support them in taking turns.

Inspection activities

- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers included in the setting's own parent survey.
- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's house and garden.
- The inspector held discussions with the provider at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector checked documents relating to the suitability and qualifications of the childminder and her family.
- The inspector sampled documentation regarding planning and children's progress and welfare.

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 childminder seeks information from parents about their children's preferences and routines as soon as she starts caring for them. However, she does not involve parents in establishing their children's developmental starting points. As she gets to know children and their families, the childminder and parents frequently share information about children's activities, interests, welfare and progress. The childminder makes frequent observations of children. Using these records, and information from parents and other providers, she continues to assess children's development and plan effectively for their progress. The childminder provides a wide range of activities which link to children's interests to support their learning. The quality of teaching is good. Children enjoy choosing and sharing books with the childminder, listening with interest to the stories she reads to them. These activities promote children's interest in reading for the future. The childminder skilfully increases the challenge of activities. For example, as children pour water through a funnel, she encourages them to turn the funnel upside down and attempt to pour it through the smaller hole. This activity develops children's coordination and sense of achievement. Her sensitive intervention in their play encourages children's imaginative play and counting. In the mud kitchen, they create mud pies and count them. Although this area is generally well resourced, it lacks weighing equipment to extend children's learning.

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

Children are happy and settled. Their developing skills, especially in communication, confidence and independence, prepare them well for future learning environments, such as pre-school and school. The childminder teaches and reinforces good health and hygiene habits. She involves children in growing fruit and vegetables, and teaches them about the advantages of different foods at mealtimes. Children benefit from fresh air and exercise during regular outings and outdoor play. Parents and relatives support the childminder in teaching children about their own cultures and beliefs, and those of others.

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

The childminder promotes children's well-being, learning and development well. She has a secure understanding of safeguarding procedures and how to protect children. The childminder teaches children how to keep themselves safe. She reinforces road safety rules and involves them in fire drills. The childminder updates her knowledge and develops her practice through training, research and meeting with other childminders. This allows her to share ideas with other professionals, and consider her effectiveness in promoting children's learning and progress. This has a positive impact on their learning experiences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY253362
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	833068
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	2 December 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2002. She lives with her husband and teenage children in the Boslowick area of Falmouth, Cornwall. She provides care from 7.30am until 6pm Monday to Thursday, and 7.30am until 3pm on Friday, throughout the year and receives educational funding for two, three and four-year-old children.

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