

Childminder report

Inspection date	27 February 2019
Previous inspection date	26 November 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder provides exceptional support for children's social and emotional development. She very skilfully helps children to think about and manage their feelings, share toys and play cooperatively. Older children behave with great consideration to the younger children and form very secure relationships with each other.
- The childminder makes the most of opportunities to promote children's learning as they play. For example, she encourages older children to count and record numbers accurately and develops their mathematical skills effectively. Children make good progress in their learning and development.
- The childminder reflects on her practice regularly and consults parents and children to identify areas for improvement. For example, she is developing new opportunities for children to use technology to extend their knowledge and skills.
- Children benefit enormously from a welcoming and highly stimulating environment. The childminder provides an excellent range of resources that inspire children's learning.
- The childminder sometimes misses opportunities to challenge older children's thinking and help them to extend their own ideas further.
- The childminder does not consistently ask parents about children's achievements when they first attend to clearly establish and build on what they already know and can do.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide older children with more opportunities, to extend their thinking skills and build on their own ideas
- seek more detailed information from parents when children first start, to plan even more precisely for their continued progress from the earliest stage.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder engaged in activities indoors and outside.
- The inspector observed children with the childminder and discussed their learning and development.
- The inspector looked at a range of documents, including children's learning records.
- The inspector talked to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at written comments from parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Margaret Baird

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder is experienced in childcare and keeps her knowledge and skills up to date. For example, she regularly meets with other childminders for mutual support and to share good practice. Children benefit from a wider range of activities and develop their social skills as they mix with others. The childminder tracks children's development conscientiously to identify and address any gaps in their learning. She establishes strong links with local pre-schools and schools that help children to feel confident as they move on to their future education. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder knows the signs that might lead to a concern about a child's welfare. She is clear about the correct procedures to follow to keep children safe from harm.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder thoughtfully plans interesting activities that help children of varying ages to move on in their learning. For example, younger children thoroughly enjoy moving around to music and pointing to different parts of their body as they join in with familiar songs. They develop a good sense of rhythm and coordination and an enjoyment of music. Older children eagerly practise dance steps and express their individual creativity as they dance in time to the music. The childminder skilfully allows older children time and space to play together, become involved in their pretend play and develop their imaginations. Children enjoy leading their own activities and interact with others well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children develop an excellent understanding of the importance of adopting a healthy lifestyle through highly engaging activities, such as making healthy and nutritious soup. The childminder expertly promotes children's knowledge of where healthy food comes from and why it is important for their health and well-being. Children benefit enormously from daily fresh air and exercise. They gain an excellent understanding of their local environment and the world they live in during regular visits to places of interest in the local area. The childminder provides an extensive range of resources that reflect other cultures. Children enjoy many rich opportunities to compare their way of life with other communities beyond their own.

Outcomes for children are good

Children become capable communicators and express themselves effectively. Older children talk about their experiences fluently and younger children learn new words rapidly as they play and widen their vocabulary. Children gain the skills they need for future learning, including their eventual move to school. Older children show interest in words and letters of the alphabet as they carefully write their names. Younger children enjoy exploring a wide variety of resources and develop their good sensory skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY278100
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	10062196
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	26 November 2015

The childminder registered in 2003. She lives in St Austell, Cornwall. The childminder is qualified to level 3. She provides care for children on weekdays, all year round.

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