

Childminder report

Inspection date	19 June 2019
Previous inspection date	10 November 2015

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder is highly dedicated and caring. She develops her knowledge of children's learning very effectively, for example through training and research, to ensure that, through play, they develop a broad range of skills. The childminder encourages children to learn how to be independent and prepares them exceptionally well for their future learning.
- The childminder robustly assesses risks which are supported, for instance, by detailed policies and procedures. These help to maintain a highly safe and secure environment for children. Children demonstrate through routine activities how well they manage personal safety, such as when caring for animals and maintaining boundaries.
- The childminder is particularly skilful in promoting children's mathematical development. She encourages children to build upon their excellent counting skills and awareness of numbers, such as recognising quantities. For instance, children count how much fruit is required at snack time and how much they have left to eat.
- The childminder is a wonderful role model. Children develop extremely strong attachments to her and each other. Older children are kind and caring to younger children and are beginning to understand the needs of others exceedingly well.
- Parents speak highly of the superb quality of care and education. They appreciate the excellent flow of communication regarding their children's progress and value opportunities they have to explore the wider community to broaden their understanding of the world. For example, children delight in recounting experiences of outings to the zoo.
- The childminder forms outstanding relationships with professionals and other settings children attend, and maintains high levels of continuity for their care and learning. For example, she regularly shares her ongoing assessments and reviews children's learning progress with them.
- The childminder skilfully reflects on children's progress to analyse their learning needs. She uses the information gained to plan sharply focused next steps for all children in order to extend their learning very well.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the excellent partnerships with parents further, to encourage them to share more information about their children's achievements at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's interactions in play with the childminder throughout the inspection.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder about her evaluation of children's learning and development from a play activity.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector viewed a sample of documentation, including safeguarding policies and procedures, and children's records.
- The inspector considered the written feedback from parents and took their views into account.

Inspector
Carly Ellicott

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has an excellent understanding of how to keep children safe. She knows what to do if she has any concerns about the welfare of a child. The childminder evaluates her practice very effectively to ensure she reflects current guidance to keep children safe, and she shares information with parents to help raise awareness of wider safeguarding issues. Highly effective monitoring of children's learning ensures that the childminder and parents quickly identify any gaps, delays or strengths in children's development. The childminder also recognises that she could extend these excellent partnerships further to encourage all parents to share even more information about their children's learning from home. The childminder plans specifically tailored activities for children. As a result, all children make excellent progress from their starting points.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder's teaching is of the highest quality. Younger children develop excellent listening and attention skills. For example, they mimic language and vocabulary, superbly modelled by the childminder, and make familiar animal noises as they build upon shared ideas and experiences during interesting discussions about stories. Older children engage deeply in imaginative role play which captures their focus and attention exceptionally well. They develop excellent small-muscle skills and hand-to-eye coordination, for example when dressing dolls in clothing with buttons and poppers. The childminder forms concise, detailed, observations and assessments. This helps her to cater superbly for children's individual needs, helping them to achieve excellent progress in their learning and development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

All children demonstrate exceptionally positive behaviour and are especially confident. They are extremely settled and flourish in the nurturing relationship they have with the childminder. Children take great delight in sharing their thoughts and feelings. They demonstrate this as they negotiate and problem solve to create games they enjoy playing together. For example, they joyfully initiate running games with the childminder, helping to support their physical development in imaginative ways. Children benefit from exciting outings and enjoy a breadth of rich experiences beyond what they already know. They learn to manage risks sensibly, such as knowing how to cross roads safely. The childminder praises children extremely highly for their positive actions and for being kind to each other.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are confident learners and develop essential skills which help them prepare for their eventual move to school. They display high levels of resilience and often initiate their own learning. For example, older children pretend to read stories to their dolls, showing a high interest in literacy. Younger children enjoy singing familiar songs with the highly animated childminder and giggle with delight as they anticipate the endings.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY283639
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	10062534
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Date of previous inspection	10 November 2015

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in Ashburton, Devon. She operates from 8am to 6pm Monday to Thursday, throughout the year.

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