

Childminder report

Inspection date	7 February 2019
Previous inspection date	5 January 2016

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 has effective and comprehensive methods of assessment. She detects any gaps in children's learning and makes plans to close them quickly. Children make good progress in their learning and development.
- Partnership with parents is a real strength of this provision. The childminder involves parents at all levels. She liaises regularly with them regarding children's learning and closely includes them in the assessment process. She also values their views on her provision to help her outline areas for further improvement.
- The childminder has developed extremely caring and respectful relationships with the children. They are very happy, settled and thrive in her care. Children behave extremely well. They play cooperatively and show thoughtful and considerate behaviour towards each other.
- Children develop very good control and coordination of their movements. They learn to make purposeful marks and work effectively with one-handed tools to develop skills and techniques with a range of equipment.
- The childminder is proactive in researching and incorporating different ways of working. For instance, she undertakes professional reading, links with networking groups and accesses training to enhance her skills. Recently she has undertaken a range of training focused on enhancing children's personal and emotional needs.
- Occasionally, the childminder does not promptly adapt her support and the areas set out within her home to challenge and extend older children's skills as much as possible.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend and adapt support more promptly as children play to consistently challenge their learning and skills as much as possible.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas used for childminding. She talked to the children and the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including the suitability and qualifications of the childminder, policies and procedures, children's development records and planning.
- The inspector observed the children and the childminder. She evaluated the effectiveness of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and their written views by reading their comments in questionnaires and letters.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's risk assessments and her self-evaluation process.

Inspector

Rachel Howell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder carries out risk assessments of her home and when on outings, to promote children's safety. She regularly refreshes her knowledge of safeguarding through training, to keep her up to date with current legislation. The childminder evaluates and develops her provision, and has more recently implemented new practices and processes to help her evolve this further. She works closely and beneficially with a group of other local childminders. For example, they share good practice, plan interesting joint activities and organise social group sessions and educational trips for the children. The childminder fosters close links with other settings that children attend, working regularly with them to ensure consistent support for children's individual needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder offers stimulating adult-led activities to motivate children to learn and develop their skills. For example, children enjoyed making coloured dough. The childminder used probing questions to encourage children to think and share their understanding. Children named different ingredients and enjoyed smelling spices, such as ginger. They talked about numbers and quantity, learned to follow a recipe and took turns very well. Children's creativity was inspired effectively as they experimented by combining materials with the finished dough. They persevered very well on intricate creations and tested out their ideas, such as making towers in their dough. They pushed dried pasta sticks into their dough and very carefully threaded on hooped cereal.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder values children highly as individuals. Her very responsive and sensitive support reassures less confident children, helping them join in, give their point of view and ask questions. The childminder skilfully plans highly interesting new experiences to inspire children's curiosity and develops their understanding of the world superbly, for example through activities focused on Chinese New Year. She places a high priority on supporting children's healthy lifestyles, inspiring their physical exploration and fostering a love of nature. For example, she takes children weekly to forest school and outdoor learning groups, which parents say that their children relish attending. She thoughtfully plans subsequent linked activities to capitalise excellently upon children's interests, for example to help children identify the birds in her garden.

Outcomes for children are good

Children's communication and mathematical skills are developing very well. Children learn new words and suitable meanings to extend their thinking and their knowledge of the world effectively, for example 'gold' for 'yellow metal' and 'rice fields'. Children relish the many opportunities to be independent and gain confidence in their own abilities. For instance, they readily help themselves to cups and a jug of water to pour their own drinks. They persevere very well to get their shoes and coats on ready to go outside. Children learn to look closely at details and solve problems effectively. For example, they worked out how to open containers during a dough-making activity. Children gain the skills they will need for their move on to school effectively.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY290355
Local authority	Bath and North East Somerset Council
Inspection number	10061492
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	5 January 2016

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in the Weston area of Bath. She operates all year round from 8am to 4.45pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. The childminder provides funded early education for children aged three years.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
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