

Childminder report

Inspection date: 18 July 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children share very close bonds with the nurturing and caring childminder. They feel safe and secure in her care and seek comfort from her when they are tired or need reassurance. The childminder provides an environment which enables children to develop their confidence and independence through making their own choices about what they play with. Children show high levels of engagement and enjoyment while they play with a wide variety of very inviting activities. The childminder has high expectations and children behave very well. They use their manners as they politely make requests.

The curriculum focuses on supporting children's next steps in learning while following their interests. The childminder uses her good teaching skills to provide exciting and meaningful learning experiences which help children to progress in their learning. She uses assessment well to identify children's next steps in learning. Children who need additional support are identified promptly. The childminder works in partnership with families and external agencies to ensure children receive the support they need to help them reach their full potential.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder skilfully teaches children mathematical vocabulary and concepts as she plays alongside the children. She provides a wealth of opportunities which promote counting and learning about patterns. For example, as children scoop coloured rice into containers, she talks to them about the repeated pattern they have made.
- The childminder frequently takes the children on a wide variety of outings to further support their learning. She often incorporates the children's current interests and visits the zoo to help children learn more about insects, for example. Children also benefit from attending toddler groups to learn how to socialise with children of a similar age.
- Parents speak very positively of the childminder. They report that they are involved and supported in their child's learning and development and that their opinion is valued. Parents comment that the childminder's communication is exceptional. They say that she is very caring and supportive and that she provides a 'home-from-home' environment. Parents report that they would recommend the setting.
- Children learn about the importance of a healthy lifestyle. They eat healthy packed lunches and have plenty of opportunities to be physically active at the setting and while on outings. For example, children take long walks in the woods and young children learn how to develop their walking and balancing skills. The childminder teaches the children about the importance of good oral hygiene and has invited a dentist to the setting to support learning.

- The childminder is very good at supporting the children with their communication and language. She skilfully exposes children to new vocabulary and repeats children's sentences to help them hear words correctly. However, she incorrectly refers to herself in the third person and this could confuse younger children and those that are learning to talk. This does not enable children to hear and develop their own language skills as well as possible.
- The childminder is committed to improving her setting and practice. She works alongside other childminders to share good practice and to support her professional development. She invites parents to make recommendations and is proactive in constantly making improvements to her environment.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a good knowledge of child protection issues and is clear about her role and responsibilities to safeguard children. She keeps her safeguarding knowledge up to date, for instance through regular training. The childminder knows the signs that indicate a child may be at risk of harm. She understands the correct procedures to follow in the event of a concern about a child's welfare. The childminder manages risks to children effectively by carrying out frequent risk assessments of her environment and when going on visits.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- develop modelling of language to support children's communication and speaking skills even further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY308618
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	10299896
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 3
Total number of places	8
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	23 January 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2005. She lives in Tiverton, Devon. The childminder provides care each weekday from 8am to 5pm. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3. She receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The setting is called Tiddlywinks Childminding.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Leanne Galloway

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the childminder.
- The childminder gave the inspector a tour of the premises. She talked about children's learning and progress and how she delivers the curriculum.
- The inspector spoke to parents and read feedback to gain their views about the childminder.
- A range of documentation was reviewed, including qualification certificates.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector and childminder observed children during activities and completed a follow-up discussion about children's learning and development.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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