

Inspection date	24 March 2015
Previous inspection date	2 November 2009

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		Outstanding	1
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 quality of teaching is good. The childminder provides children with a variety of stimulating yet developmentally-appropriate activities. As a result, children are motivated and show good levels of involvement during their play.
- The childminder forms exceptional, warm and caring bonds with children. She provides them with lots of praise and reassurance. As a result, children thrive in her care and show high levels of self-confidence and motivation in activities.
- Children's safety and well-being are of paramount importance to the childminder. The childminder has an excellent understanding of robust safeguarding procedures and regularly updates her training in this crucial area of practice.
- The childminder has a clear drive for improvement. She reflects on her practice and sets herself targets to improve her service for all children and their families. As a result, her capacity to continually improve is good.
- The childminder ensures she trains her assistant regularly and understands the policies and procedures of the setting. Consequently, she is aware of how to deliver a high quality service to children and parents.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder and her assistant do not always fully promote young children's interest in literacy. Although there is a wide range of books available, they do not always act upon children's requests for a story.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the responses to young children when they indicate they want a story, to enhance their early literacy development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed in the home and out in the garden.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and her assistant.
- The inspector reviewed documentation including policies, qualification certificates, recruitment checks and children's learning folders.
- The inspector read the childminder's self-evaluation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through their written comments left for inspection.

Inspector

Katherine Lamb

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The childminder uses assessments well to plan interesting experiences for children and to target the next stages in learning so they are ready for school. The childminder is highly skilled at understanding when to allow children space to explore and experiment with activities. She is also effective in knowing when and how to intervene to maximise their learning. For example, the childminder provides an activity to help children develop their hand-eye coordination as they thread pasta onto pipe cleaners. The childminder focuses on communication with children and interacts at appropriate times by asking them questions. Children are also encouraged to ask questions, for example, when children look at books they ask what a sail boat is. The childminder explains and gets them to blow on their hands as if it was a sail to help cement their learning. Children enjoy counting in their play and discuss numbers and shapes naturally when making play dough birthday cakes.

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

The childminder shows exceptional commitment to providing an environment where children feel at home, very safe and secure. An extremely wide range of activities and toys are available and this provides children with stimulating, exciting and challenging opportunities. Children settle well and are clearly very happy when they are with the childminder and her assistant. Children use the outdoor play space every day, extending their play with activities promoting their physical skills. The childminder is an excellent role model and children's appropriate behaviour reflects this. Children enjoy healthy snacks and meals along with water and milk to drink. This means children are learning about what foods are good for them.

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

The childminder updates her safeguarding knowledge and understanding regularly by attending training courses. She has a very good attitude to continuous professional development and, since her last inspection, has successfully completed all recommendations made. The childminder ensures her assistant attends training courses and regularly supports her to understand the policies and procedures of her setting. This underpins their good practice. The childminder talks to parents to gather their views. She uses these to evaluate her service and set targets for improvement. She also works with other childminders to share good practice and ideas. As a result, partnerships with parents and other professionals are strong.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY308618
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	834256
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	11
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	2 November 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2005. She lives in Tiverton, Devon. The childminder has an assistant. The childminder provides funded places for children aged two, three and four years old.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
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M1 2WD

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