

Childminder report

Inspection date: 28 March 2022

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 settle quickly in the nurturing environment that the childminder provides, demonstrating that they feel safe and secure. They develop warm and trusting relationships with the childminder and her assistant, who are both very attentive. The childminder expertly supports children to develop positive relationships with each other. They quickly learn how to take turns, share and treat one another with respect.

The childminder has a clear understanding of the skills children need to prepare them for later learning. For example, she knows how important it is for children to develop strength in their hands before they learn to write at school. All children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, have positive attitudes to learning and make good progress from their starting points. They leave the setting as confident individuals, ready for school.

The childminder has made some changes as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure children's safety. She requests that parents do not routinely enter her home but drop and collect their children at the door. Parents of children who are new to the setting are invited in to ensure that children are settled and happy.

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

- Children develop good communication skills as they are supported to speak clearly. The childminder is a positive role model as she talks to them about what they are doing and consistently reinforces vocabulary. Children keenly participate in songs and listen attentively to stories that the childminder reads with them in an engaging way.
- Children benefit from regular, purposeful trips out to explore the local area. For example, they make bird feeders to take out on nature walks. Children are excited to point out the different birds they see. They also enjoy helping to feed the pet rabbit. This helps children learn to take care of living things.
- The childminder provides a range of enticing activities. Children have frequent opportunities to use a range of tools, which the childminder shows them how to use safely. For instance, they use scissors and knives to cut herbs and lemons. This helps children to develop dexterity and precision.
- Children are taught to safely climb the stairs in the house to access the garden, which they become confident to do. The outside area is full of things for them to choose from. However, this restricts the space for children to move around freely. This sometimes results in younger children being picked up instead of practising their own walking.
- The childminder supports children to be healthy. She promotes good handwashing routines, healthy eating and oral hygiene. The childminder

manages children's personal needs effectively, including administering medication and catering for their dietary needs.

- Children are supported to understand what makes them unique. They demonstrate pride in their accomplishments and their independence skills, for example when doing up their own buttons. The childminder praises children for their efforts. Children are encouraged to help tidy up. However, the space quickly becomes very cluttered and the expectations for them to put away the things they have played with are inconsistent. This results in limited participation from the children in looking after their toys.
- The childminder evaluates her own provision well. She gains valuable feedback from parents to ensure they are happy with her service. They report that she is 'compassionate, approachable and patient'. Parents feel well informed of the progress their children make and are confident that their children are thriving in her care. The childminder is highly recommended by the parents, who trust her implicitly.
- The childminder has established good partnerships with the local school and nursery and she shares important information with them about children's learning and development. Older children who attend the setting for wrap-around care are keen to spend time in the childminder's home and have very high opinions of her.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Children's safety and well-being are of great importance in the setting. The childminder and her assistant have attended training to ensure that their child protection knowledge is up to date. The childminder is confident in recognising the signs that may indicate a child is at risk of harm, including wider concerns such as the 'Prevent' duty. She understands how to identify and report concerns about a child's welfare to keep them safe. The childminder has attended first-aid training and has a fire evacuation procedure in place. The childminder promotes online safety and supports children to manage risks themselves. For instance, when using the stairs, they follow the safety rules.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- ensure the outdoor area is not overcrowded in order for children to fully develop their movement skills
- use consistent strategies to support children to take part in tidying away their toys after they have played with them.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY340997
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	10062542
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 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Date of previous inspection	19 November 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Bideford, Devon. She operates Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm all year round. The childminder is in receipt of funded places for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Den Russell

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection of the setting since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in her evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector and the childminder completed a learning walk of the setting where they discussed the early years provision and the aims of the curriculum.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and discussed the childminder's teaching practice.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder throughout the inspection and discussed how the setting is managed.
- The inspector spoke to children and read statements from older children and parents to gather their views.

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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