

Childminder Report

Inspection date	10 August 2016
Previous inspection date	18 October 2012

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder builds close relationships with the children. She knows the children well and understands their individual needs. Children feel safe and are emotionally secure.
- Children enjoy a good range of physical play experiences. They develop a positive attitude to exercise and learn about keeping healthy. They experience a wide range of activities that support their interests effectively.
- The childminder reflects on her practice and identifies areas for improvement to support positive outcomes for children.
- The childminder uses accurate assessments to identify children's next steps and monitors their progress effectively. All children make good progress from their individual starting points.
- Children receive lots of praise and encouragement. They behave well, are confident and develop high self-esteem.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not make the most of opportunities to teach children how to assess risks to keep themselves and others safe.
- The childminder misses opportunities to encourage children's early reading skills and extend their learning further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's awareness of keeping themselves and others safe, to help them learn how to recognise and manage risks
- make the most of opportunities for children to build on their early literacy skills for reading and extend their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's learning records.
- The inspector and the childminder observed children during outside play and completed a follow-up discussion about children's progress and learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents from their written comments.

Inspector

Michelle Tuck

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is clear on her role and responsibility to keep children safe. She has a good understanding of child protection issues and knows what to do if she is concerned about a child's welfare. The childminder works well in partnership with parents. She keeps them informed about their children's progress and encourages them to be involved in their children's development and share their learning from home. The childminder observes the children as they play and addresses any gaps in their learning quickly. She attends relevant training to improve her skills and to help children to develop their communication and language skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children thoroughly enjoy the learning experiences and activities that the childminder plans. She follows children's interests and takes into account what the children already know and can do. For example, she builds on their interest in minibeasts. Children use magnifying glasses to look under stones and search for insects in the garden. The childminder introduces words such as 'woodlouse' to increase children's vocabulary and support their understanding. The childminder enthusiastically engages in conversation with the children and asks a range of questions to help prompt their thinking; for example, why there are no caterpillars in the garden.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a warm and nurturing environment. She is kind and caring in her approach. Children enjoy a wide range of home-cooked meals and healthy snacks. They follow thorough hygiene routines and learn about the importance of hand washing, such as after playing outside and before eating. Good use is made of local amenities and visits to favourite places to help develop children's social skills. For example, the childminder takes the children to a farm where they pick potatoes, feed the chickens and find out where milk comes from. This helps to encourage children's understanding of the wider world. Children behave well. They take it in turns to prepare snacks and willingly share resources.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are enthusiastic and motivated to learn. They gain the skills they need for the next stages of their learning and school. They count confidently in their play and write for different purposes. For example, they make tally marks on an insect chart and count the number of insects they find on their bug hunt. They persevere and solve problems as they confidently complete puzzles. Children make choices in their play and develop good independence skills. They use the bathroom independently and dress for outside play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY441201
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1059116
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 5
Total number of places	4
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	18 October 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2012 and lives in the village of Merriot, near Crewkerne in Somerset. She offers care all day Monday to Friday throughout the year, except for Christmas and bank holidays.

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