

Childminder report

Inspection date: 22 January 2025

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 develop well in the care of this highly experienced, kind and nurturing childminder. She provides them with a home-from-home environment, where routines are well established and clear. Children are eager to begin to take responsibility. For instance, they all help to put resources away prior to sleep time. Children show they feel happy, safe and secure in her care, such as when they enjoy the frequent cuddles she gives them. Children are motivated and enthusiastic learners. They sing loudly and dance enthusiastically to nursery rhymes and songs as the childminder encourages them to attempt the actions.

Children behave well and are eager to take advantage of the wide range of learning opportunities. The childminder offers encouragement and praise to children as they try new activities and attempt to complete tasks. This helps to foster their confidence and self-esteem. The childminder provides children with lots of opportunities to enjoy the outdoors locally. Children enjoy playing outside in her garden and taking advantage of the activities and resources available. They have opportunities to develop early mathematical awareness. For example, the childminder helps children to count farm animals and points to numbers on display.

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

- The childminder's curriculum currently focuses on helping children to settle into her provision. To support this, she works collaboratively with parents to adjust times and lengths for each individual child. This supports children's personal, social and emotional development.
- The childminder regularly takes children on outings in the local area. For example, they visit community farms, playgroups, parks and libraries. Children enjoy meeting other childminders and other children as part of these outings. Children enjoy catching a bus and train to towns as part of these experiences. This helps children to have an awareness of communities and environments beyond their own.
- Children show some independence as they play with resources. However, at times, children are not given opportunities to manage and practise their independence skills, for example opening containers at mealtimes and dressing themselves.
- The childminder's interactions support children's communication and language skills. She skilfully extends their language and helps them to use new vocabulary. For instance, during play, she introduces new words such as 'camel', 'rhino' and 'squidgy'. This helps to widen children's range of vocabulary.
- The childminder encourages children to develop good hygiene practices. For instance, she asks them to wash their hands after coming in from outside play and before mealtimes.

- Children are developing a love of books. They freely choose books to look at and show an interest in stories as they take them to the childminder, who enthusiastically reads to them. This supports children's early literacy skills.
- Children are aware of the childminder's expectations of their behaviour. The childminder demonstrates this when she shows them how to share resources and take turns.
- The childminder provides a wide range of activities that are linked to children's interests. This includes a variety of craft activities that link to the topics she plans throughout the year. However, at times, the childminder tends to overly direct children's play, which limits opportunities for them to make decisions and explore their learning in their own way.
- Children have many opportunities to develop their physical skills. For instance, they dance enthusiastically to music, practise ball skills and access large outdoor apparatus in parks.
- The childminder shares appropriate information with the local nursery when children attend, which helps promote positive partnership working.
- The childminder is passionate about her role. In addition to mandatory training, she engages with the local authority and completes online training. She uses this new knowledge to benefit children. For example, she has recently shown an interest in a communication course to give her new ideas to develop children's emerging language.
- Parents are very complimentary about the care provided for their children, including their older brothers and sisters who have moved on to school. They appreciate the communication provided about their child's achievements and suggestions of things they can do at home to build on their child's learning. They comment about the family environment she provides and the warm and genuine interest she has in their children.
- The childminder completes regular assessments of children's progress and uses this information to support her planning decisions.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- promote children's independence further, providing even more opportunities for children to do things for themselves
- extend teaching to increase opportunities for children to make decisions and lead their own play and learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY480634
Local authority	Bath and North East Somerset Council
Inspection number	10375890
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	2 to 2
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	2
Date of previous inspection	8 May 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2014 and lives in Coombe Down, Bath, Bath and North East Somerset. She operates term time only, from 8am to 4pm, Tuesday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lin Harvey

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children and spoke with them at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out an observation of an activity and discussed this with the childminder.
- The inspector spent time observing the quality of education and teaching.
- The childminder shared documentation, including evidence of suitability and training certificates, with the inspector.
- The inspector and the childminder discussed the intent of her curriculum.

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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