

Childminder report

Inspection date: 18 December 2019

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	Met
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder nurtures, educates and supports children to ensure they develop high levels of confidence and resilience. She provides children with a good range of activities that meet their interests to help them move forward in their next stage of development. For instance, the childminder is passionate about providing children with high-quality outdoor opportunities. The childminder supervises children well as they bake bread over an open fire. They pick strawberries, collect water from the stream and grow their own fruit, such as rhubarb. The childminder uses this to make a crumble for children to enjoy. Children collect leaves and sort them into groups, such as those that have the same colour or shape, to help develop their mathematical skills. The childminder has high expectations and reflects on her practice effectively. She plans to develop her own garden to extend children's outdoor and mathematical experiences even further. Children have a positive attitude to learning and behave well. They learn how to respect and be tolerant of one another. The childminder encourages children to believe in their own abilities. She helps them to face and overcome any difficulties they may encounter, such as when attempting a new skill. Children's self-esteem is high and they feel safe within their environment.

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

- Children have developed strong communication skills. The childminder is an effective role model and listens attentively to children. She encourages them to repeat words and form simple sentences. This helps children to express their own thoughts and needs successfully. The childminder takes children to visit the local library to help support their early reading skills.
- The childminder keeps parents informed of their children's progress and daily activities. Parents are highly complimentary of the care and education she provides. For example, they state that the childminder goes above and beyond her duty. The childminder provides parents with good levels of communication. However, opportunities for parents to share their own skills and contribute to the planning process are not fully embedded.
- Children become absorbed in activities that interest them. They have good opportunities to explore different textures, shapes and tools. They enjoy using scoops to collect birdseed and skilfully pour this into small containers. Children play with shapes, and the childminder helps them to identify a 'circle' and a 'star', which supports their good mathematical skills. Children pick up pom-poms, using good hand-to-eye coordination to place them down a cardboard tube.
- The childminder is highly qualified and is committed to attending frequent training to benefit children's development. She understands how strong attachments help to make children feel safe. Children's emotional well-being is good.

- Children enjoy learning about the wider world. Since her previous inspection, the childminder has purchased a large canvas map. Children discuss which countries their families live in and the variation of time zones. Children learn about mandalas and about other cultures, such as Muslim.
- The childminder has formed effective links with health visitors, pre-schools and other childminders. She shares children's progress to help provide a consistent approach to their development. However, links with local schools are not as effective to ensure information is shared effectively.
- Care practices are effective. The childminder is kind, nurturing and calm. Children build warm relationships with her and each other. They learn by good example and the childminder is attentive to children's needs. She ensures they are clean, well fed and hydrated, and receive plenty of cuddles and affection. The childminder encourages children to express their feelings positively. She provides them with achievable tasks that will build their confidence. Children receive plenty of praise to help them persevere during activities.
- The childminder ensures children have good opportunities to repeat activities that interest them. For example, children enjoy pushing toy vehicles down a piece of guttering, which enables them to explore and express their ideas and thoughts through play.
- Children have free access to resources within the childminder's home. This helps to support their independence and encourages them to make decisions for themselves.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder ensures children's safety. She has a fireguard around her coal fire and stairgates in place. The childminder carries out regular fire drills with the children to help them understand what to do in the event of an emergency. She has her smoke detectors checked frequently to ensure they are in good working order. The childminder is alert to when a child may be at risk of harm. She has a comprehensive understanding of safeguarding procedures and issues, including extremist views and behaviours. The childminder is aware of local agencies she can contact in the event a child's safety is at risk.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- devise further strategies to encourage parents to share their skills and strengths and to contribute to the planning process to extend children's development even more
- develop close links with local schools to ensure a consistent two-way flow of information.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY485471
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	10125802
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 5
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	25 January 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2015 and lives in Millbrook, Cornwall. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. She holds a degree in early childhood studies at level 6.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Joanne Steward

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation and discussed with the childminder how the activity benefits children.
- Relevant documentation was looked at, including training certificates, safeguarding policies and the childminder's self-evaluation process.
- The inspector completed a learning walk and spoke to the childminder and children at convenient times throughout the day.
- Parents' views were taken account of through written letters.
- The childminder discussed with the inspector the range of educational activities she provides for children to help them progress in their learning.

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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