

Childminder report

Inspection date: 24 January 2023

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children are extremely happy and completely at ease in the childminder's nurturing home. She knows each child's specific character and learning style, and uses this to spark their interests and extend their learning. Children thrive in the play the childminder carefully plans for them. They are very articulate and have a good understanding of a wide vocabulary. Two-year-old children hold meaningful conversations with the childminder and can clearly express themselves. Children have superb manners and behave impeccably. They play cooperatively, making sure that they include their friends in their games. Children spend prolonged periods of time playing a 'pop up monkey' game together. They take turns to roll the dice, say 'thank you' as they pass game pieces, and become excited when their friend wins the game.

The childminder provides an exceptional ambitious curriculum which challenges children and excites their curiosity. Children thoroughly enjoy playing and learning together. The childminder skilfully models how to do things and encourages them to 'have a go'. She uses very effective techniques to promote children's independency and encourage resilience, using a range of fun methods, such as flipping coats over children's heads to teach them how to put these on. Children show sustained concentration as the childminder explains what to do. They enjoy this very much and are eager to keep practising until they can do it for themselves.

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

- The childminder has an excellent overview of how and what she wants children to learn. She has a very strong knowledge of early education, learning and development. The childminder fully embeds all seven areas of learning in everyday activities, and children make phenomenal progress in her care. She demonstrates this in her excellent practice and understanding of how children learn. The childminder meticulously plans activities that she knows they will enjoy and tailors to their individual needs. Children have many opportunities to practise and consolidate their learning. The childminder knows the right moment to interact and provide support to children without disrupting their learning.
- Interactions with children are exemplary and they make exceptional progress in their language skills. The childminder places a considerable focus on supporting children to become confident communicators. Children have ample opportunities to use language as the childminder plays alongside them. She seamlessly introduces new vocabulary and explains its meaning, such as 'softening'. The childminder skilfully supports children to develop their pronunciation, as she repeats words they say correctly. She poses new questions and gives them time to respond. Children communicate confidently with the childminder, extending their language and thinking skills.

- The childminder establishes exceptional relationships with the children and their families. Parents say that they are very involved in their children's learning. They say that the daily communication is excellent. Parents comment that the personal touch she provides for their children is 'fantastic'.
- The childminder has excellent links with other early years settings. She shares vital information to ensure children's emotional securities are being met. For example, the childminder shares strategies that she has in place and how children like to learn. She has formed strong partnerships with other childminders. The childminder uses their constructive feedback to consistently enhance her excellent teaching.
- The highly motivated and dedicated childminder has a strong vision for the future. She reflects on all aspects of her provision to provide the best experiences for children. The childminder strives for excellence in everything she does. She keeps her already expert knowledge up to date to fulfil her goals, which has an outstanding impact on children's well-being and learning.
- Children's independence and self-care skills are exceptional. They remember and follow routines that the childminder has taught them. When children have finished using resources, they independently tidy them up. Younger children confidently share when they need to blow or wipe their nose. They wash their hands competently and independently before snack.
- Children benefit from the exceptionally effective settling-in sessions the childminder provides. They are individually tailored sessions, where children and their families visit together. The childminder gets to know them very well and supports their individual needs. As a result, children settle quickly in her outstanding home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an excellent understanding of how to protect and keep children safe in her care. She is competent in knowing the signs and symptoms that may indicate a child is at potential risk from harm. The childminder is fully aware of the procedures to follow and where she can seek support and advice. The childminder's premises are safe and secure, and supervision of the children is extremely effective. The childminder deploys herself well and uses opportunities to help children understand how to stay safe as they play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2544441
Local authority	Bath and North East Somerset Council
Inspection number	10215485
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 10
Total number of places	4
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2019 and lives on the outskirts of Bath, Somerset. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday. The childminder holds qualified teacher status. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Charlotte Adcock

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provision.
- The childminder showed the inspector around the premises and discussed she ensures they are safe and suitable.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at convenient times and assessed the effectiveness of safeguarding and care procedures.
- The inspector took account of parents' and children's views during the inspection.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documents on request.

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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