

Childminder report

Inspection date:

25 March 2022

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 form exceptionally secure emotional attachments with the childminder. The childminder provides an incredibly nurturing, caring and welcoming environment and approach. Children develop an excellent sense of belonging. For example, each child decorates their own coat peg and has a dedicated space to display their artwork on the wall. This helps children to feel extremely valued and they gain high levels of confidence and self-esteem. Children's behaviour is impeccable. They know how to treat others with kindness and respect. For example, older children offer to get and then fetch younger children's drinks for them when they need them.

The childminder plans a highly effective curriculum. Children demonstrate delight and interest as they engage in activities that help challenge their learning and development. Children focus and concentrate for long periods during discussions and activities. For instance, they talked in detail about hunting for bugs in the woods and their favourite stories. Children enjoy and greatly benefit from music, action songs and rhymes as part of their daily routine. This helps to extend children's confidence in both movement and language skills. Children make swift progress in developing new vocabulary. For example, they sing to themselves, using language they have learned to create their own song. Children gain high levels of respect for themselves and others. They learn about similarities and differences through very thoughtful and insightful discussions, resources, activities and outings in the community. This helps them to understand how to accept and respect others.

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

- The childminder has a deep understanding of how children learn. This enables her to provide a rich and varied curriculum with a wide range of carefully sequenced learning experiences. Children make excellent progress from their starting points. They gain an excellent range of skills and knowledge to ensure they are incredibly well prepared for their future learning.
- The childminder reflects exceptionally well on her practice and the quality of her provision. She undertakes highly targeted training to help her offer the highest quality of care and education to children. The childminder makes changes to her practice that have a significant impact for children's development. For instance, she uses daily positive affirmations to motivate children to persevere in their learning.
- The childminder provides an excellent role model to children in how she responds and behaves towards them. Children are valued as unique individuals and their personal qualities are nurtured and treasured. The childminder understands the importance of children being able to explore their emotions.

She provides exceptional support to enable children to explore their emotions and talk through their feelings. This helps children to learn to manage their own feelings and behaviour incredibly well.

- Children develop high levels of independence. They learn to manage their own personal needs and help with routine tasks. For example, children spontaneously sweep the floor after spilling oats during their play. Children develop pride and a strong belief that they are competent and capable of taking care of themselves and their environment.
- Parents are overwhelmingly positive about the level of care the childminder provides. The childminder knows the children she cares for extremely well. She encourages parents to support children's learning at home effectively. Children settle seamlessly into the childminder's home, feeling safe and secure that their needs will be met.
- Children have excellent daily opportunities to be physically active. They thoroughly enjoy spending time in the well-thought-out garden where they grow a variety of plants, for example rhubarb, potatoes and sunflowers. Children explore the local woods, lakes and fields. They learn where fruit and vegetables come from and how they support their development.
- The childminder uses extremely effective and purposeful strategies to support children's language skills. She is highly skilful in adapting the language she uses to the different ages of children, while introducing new vocabulary. For instance, children learn the words 'camomile' and 'lavender' as they play with scented dough. Children enjoy choosing their favourite stories from the childminder's well-resourced selection of books, which reflect their interests. The childminder provides animated storytelling that captures children's interests incredibly well and promotes their excellent listening skills. Children show exceptional confidence and knowledge as they join in and repeat words and phrases from the stories.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an excellent understanding of how to ensure children are protected from harm. She has meticulous records to refer to alongside her exemplary knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse and how to keep children safe. This includes knowing when, how and where to report concerns. The childminder continually strengthens her professional development to increase her understanding of wider safeguarding issues. For example, she has recently completed training about online safety and county lines. She undertakes rigorous risk assessments and hygiene practices, to promote children's safety and well-being, including those related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2545179
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10215519
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	0 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2019. She lives in Andover, Hampshire. The childminder operates her service all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, and from 7am to 5pm on a Friday.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Nina Fortuna

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how she ensures that 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.
- Children spoke to the inspector about what they enjoy doing while with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the curriculum had been implemented and the impact that this had on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views on the setting.
- 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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