

Childminder report

Inspection date: 11 August 2022

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

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children thoroughly enjoy their time with the childminder. The childminder's home-from-home environment is well resourced and children can make independent choices about their play and learning. The childminder knows the children well and is extremely attentive to their needs. The childminder and the children develop strong relationships and bonds with each other, consequently, children feel safe, happy and secure.

Children behave very well. They respond to the childminder's high expectations to take turns and share resources during play. Children are reminded to say 'please' and 'thank you' appropriately. The childminder treats children with kindness and respect helping them to learn about valuing the differing needs of others.

Children benefit from wide-ranging opportunities to develop their physical skills in line with their interests and age and stage of development. For example, younger children use small hammers to support their developing grip as they break up ice blocks, which contain little dinosaur figures. Older children use bigger tools to reveal the larger figures. Children of all ages play very harmoniously together as they collaboratively set the dinosaurs free from the ice.

Children are learning to be independent and respect their environment. For example, they put on their own shoes to play outside and help to clear away resources before moving on to the next activity. Children's natural curiosity and interests are met extremely well. Children have great fun squeezing paint from bottles and mixing water with sand.

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

- The childminder supports children's good health successfully. She promotes children's understanding of healthy lifestyles, for example, through helping children learn about foods that are good for them and drinking plenty of water in the hot weather. Children get lots of fresh air and exercise. They relish their time playing in the well-resourced garden. For example, they excitedly paint chalk pebbles using brushes and then delight in painting with their hands making handprints on the grass.
- The childminder supports children to widen their knowledge about things that interest them. She uses her knowledge of the local environment to broaden children's exposure to the outdoors. They regularly enjoy trips to local parks and forests, where they explore the natural world around them.
- The childminder interacts frequently and positively with children. However, at times, such as during everyday activities and during children's self-chosen play, she is less successful at introducing mathematical language and concepts.

- The childminder provides children with a cosy, home-from-home environment. She plans her day in a calm and relaxed way, taking the children's lead, listening to them and using her knowledge of their home experiences to plan learning that reflects their interests.
- The childminder keeps her knowledge up to date. For example, she attends regular safeguarding and paediatric first aid training. She keeps up to date with any changes to the Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage. She is reflective of her practice and regularly asks parents for feedback. However, more recently, she has not considered professional development opportunities where she could build on her existing knowledge and skills to raise the quality of teaching to the highest level.
- The childminder knows children well and recognises where they are in their learning. She works with parents to support a consistent approach to children's care, such as when toilet training. The childminder gathers information from parents about their children's needs, likes and dislikes before they start. She uses this knowledge to ensure that children settle in confidently.
- Partnerships with parents and others involved in children's care are strong. The childminder keeps parents well informed about children's progress and offers exciting ideas to support children's learning further at home. Parents' reviews are overwhelmingly positive. They attribute their children's good progress and strong levels of confidence to the passionate and driven childminder. Parents acknowledge that she goes above and beyond to support the families she cares for.
- The childminder meets with other childminders to provide children with opportunities to socialise and meet children of differing ages and cultures. Children enjoy time together in a dedicated playgroup for the childminders' children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder demonstrates a strong knowledge of the signs that may indicate a child is at risk of harm. In particular, she keeps abreast of any safeguarding matters that affect local areas and ensures her knowledge is relevant to identify any emerging risks. The childminder understands the procedure to follow should she have a concern about a child. Children are well supported to learn about keeping themselves and others safe. They play in secure premises and are supervised effectively by the childminder to assure their safety.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- introduce even more mathematical language and concepts into everyday

routines and activities

- engage in targeted professional development opportunities to help build on existing knowledge and skills, to raise the quality of teaching to the highest level.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2549820
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10215693
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	9
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder lives in Whiteley, Fareham, Hampshire and provides care for children Monday to Friday, from 7.30am to 5.30pm, for most of the year. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 2.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Chris Lamey

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the 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 setting.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed the childminder's curriculum and her intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector and the childminder observed the children's engagement in activities and had a follow-up discussion about children's learning.
- Parents shared their views of the setting by providing written feedback.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.

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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