

Childminder report

Inspection date:

10 January 2023

Overall effectiveness

Requires improvement

The quality of education

Requires improvement

Behaviour and attitudes

Requires improvement

Personal development

Requires improvement

Leadership and management

Requires improvement

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision requires improvement

Children are confident, happy and settle quickly. They form strong attachments with the childminder and respond positively to her gentle, caring and relaxed approach. Children's well-being is supported effectively. The childminder links closely with the parents to find out about children's individual needs before they start. She makes sure that all children receive her care and consideration, which helps them to feel secure.

Children move around the play space and make independent choices about their play from the wide range of resources. They have access to a suitable range of activities and learning experiences. However, the childminder does not consistently use planning effectively. She does not always focus on the children's individual stage of development, to support them to make the best possible progress that they can in their learning.

Children generally play alongside each other well. They are supported in learning to manage their behaviour. For example, the childminder provides gentle reminders about the importance of sharing and being kind to others. The childminder offers regular praise and acknowledges the children's achievements, which helps to boost their self-esteem.

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

- The childminder has recently returned to childminding following a break from her role. Before recommencing caring for children she reviewed the play spaces to make sure they were safe and suitable for all ages of children. The childminder understands the importance of reflecting on her practice to support children's learning. However, she recognises that she needs to refresh her professional knowledge and skills, to make sure that she keeps up to date when it comes to her role. Consequently, her curriculum is not sufficiently well planned to build on all children's interests and existing skills.
- The childminder knows children well and provides resources and activities that she knows children enjoy. She observes children as they play and recognises some of their next steps in learning. However, the childminder does not adapt or extend the activities to support children's learning fully. For example, some children lose interest when playing with the building bricks and wander off, not engaged in the activity.
- Children learn the importance of good hygiene. They follow the daily routines of washing hands before eating, to help prevent the spread of infection. The childminder liaises closely with parents to make sure that children's specific dietary needs are followed continually. This helps to keep children healthy.
- Children develop their fine motor skills well. They enjoy exploring the paint and

show control as they use the brush to make marks on the paper. Children take care as they stack the cotton reels on top of each other and then watch their tower topple over. This helps to develop their hand-to-eye coordination effectively.

- Children enjoy books. They happily cuddle up to the childminder to listen to a story and eagerly point to the pictures of animals. The childminder interacts with children well. She continually talks to the children to support their developing communication and language skills. However, at times, the childminder does not use the correct versions of words to help children learn to pronounce words clearly.
- The childminder has positive relationships with the parents. She maintains an effective two-way flow of information which keeps the parents well-informed about their children's day. This helps provide a consistent approach to meeting children's care needs. Parents provide positive comments about the childminder. They say the childminder provides great communication, both verbally and via the phone.
- Children have regular opportunities for outdoor play activities, including trips around the local areas and visits to the park. This provides the children with access to fresh air and exercise, which helps promote their physical development. For example, children are able to run freely and develop skills such as throwing and kicking, as they join in ball games.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder understands her responsibility to protect children. She knows the possible signs that may indicate a child could be at risk of harm and how to report concerns about children's welfare. The childminder continually risk assesses her home to help her provide a safe environment for children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the provider must:

	Due date
implement an effective programme of professional development to increase knowledge and skills, to improve planning for children's learning to help build on children's interests and existing skills.	04/04/2023

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

- provide consistency in supporting children's language skills, to help them pronounce words more clearly and extend their skills further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2589617
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	10251198
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	1 to 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2020. She lives in Gillingham, Dorset. The childminder operates all year round, Monday to Friday, from 7.30am to 5pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Dinah Round

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 her evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder explained how her early years provision is organised. The inspector held a learning discussion with the childminder on how she supports the children's learning and development.
- The inspector spoke to the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- A range of documentation was reviewed, including suitability checks and paediatric first-aid qualifications.
- The inspector took account of parents' views about the childminder's setting.

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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