

Childminder report

Inspection date:

17 March 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 flourish in the care of the attentive and dedicated childminder. Children become deeply engaged in the activities on offer, and they persist in tasks that support their learning exceptionally well. Children learn new skills that the childminder teaches them in a skilful and structured way. Young children learn to use scissors safely and put on their own coats independently. They have extensive opportunities to practise a 'skill of the week'. The childminder breaks down each skill or task into manageable steps and shares these with parents so the children can practise them at home too. Children quickly develop independence skills and relish the opportunity to do things for themselves. They show immense pride as they use the toilet independently and explain the importance of washing their hands and brushing their teeth.

The childminder offers children choices about what they would like to play with and understands how to extend their learning through these. For example, as children think about the resources they need to create a teddy bear's picnic, they count the number of plates and choose different types of food. They make decisions about the size of the picnic mat they will choose and how it can be put down to allow more teddies to join the picnic. The childminder skilfully uses role-play activities to remind children to say 'please' and 'thank you' as they offer the teddies the picnic food.

The childminder has wonderful relationships with the children, who also form close friendships with each other. The childminder supports children to be confident, considerate and cooperative individuals. Children are learning what makes them unique and they are becoming exceptionally well prepared for school and later learning.

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

- The childminder is an excellent model for communication and language. She continually talks to children about what they are doing, asks them questions and gives them time to think and respond. Children are well supported to express their ideas, and they become confident talkers. The childminder encourages the children to name the pictures as they look at books together. Children listen intently to stories and relate the events to those in their own lives. For example, as they share a book about a new baby, children talk about how one of them is going to be a big sister soon.
- Children benefit from a rich set of experiences, including daily trips out to libraries, parks, toddler groups and other local activities. They are physically active and engage with their local community, learning about the different jobs that people do, such as firefighters and dentists. Children confidently talk about

the adventures they have with the childminder, such as feeding the ducks, watching squirrels chase each other and choosing their favourite books in the library.

- The childminder supports the children to make healthy choices. She offers them a variety of different fruits to choose from at snack time. The childminder encourages the children to observe the fruits, talking about the sizes, colours and how to grow new ones from the seeds. She prepares nutritious, well-balanced meals, taking a diligent account of allergies and dietary requirements. Parents appreciate the monthly menu she shares with them.
- Children develop a deep understanding of number, and they confidently demonstrate their counting skills using their fingers. The childminder provides the children with challenging puzzles to extend their recognition of numerals beyond 10. Children are highly motivated to take part in these more complex tasks, which support them to build on what they know and can do.
- Parents speak very highly of the childminder and the professional, committed service she provides. They are confident their children make excellent progress. They are kept well informed about their children's learning and how to support them at home. Parents report that their children are thriving and have extremely positive relationships with the childminder.
- The childminder is passionate about providing high-quality and inclusive childcare. She takes part in local networking meetings with the local authority and attends training to continually improve her teaching practice. She regularly reflects on her provision and takes account of parents' views to ensure her provision offers children the best possible start in life.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Children's safety and well-being are given the highest priority. The childminder has attended regular training to ensure her child protection knowledge is up to date. She is confident in recognising the signs that may indicate a child is at risk of harm. The childminder knows how to report concerns and who to consult to support children who may be at risk. The childminder understands how to respond in the event of an allegation made against herself or her partner.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2617326
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	10280961
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 3
Total number of places	3
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2021. She lives in the Keyham area of Plymouth. She offers care Monday to Friday, from 8am to 6 pm, all year round and is also registered to offer overnight care. The childminder offers funded childcare for eligible two-, three- and four-year-olds. The childminder holds a level 3 qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Den Russell

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection of the setting since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic and has taken that into account in her evaluation of the childminder.
- The childminder and the inspector had a learning walk of the areas used by the children and discussed the setting's aims.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and discussed the childminder's teaching practice.
- The inspector read statements from parents in order to obtain their views on the service the childminder provides.
- Children spoke to the inspector 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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