

Childminder report

Inspection date:

15 September 2025

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

The highly experienced childminder has an extremely professional approach to her work. She gets to know the children and understands their needs exceptionally well. This approach helps her to plan a curriculum that is ambitious for all children. The childminder is very kind and attentive to the children and builds extremely special bonds with them. She uses her highly developed skills as she carefully sequences activities in tune with all children's interests. For example, she plans an activity that involves cars and vehicles. She knows this will engage all the children in her care and provide them with opportunities to take turns and develop their language. She further extends this activity by introducing mathematical language.

Children are extremely inquisitive for their young age. For example, as the childminder opens a bag of autumn items they are keen to hear about how a conker sheds its outer layer and why they should not eat acorns. The childminder encourages all children to develop their listening and thinking skills. For example, she encourages them to describe the flavour and texture of strawberries during snack. After they describe them as sweet, she asks them to remember another fruit they had tried recently that was sour. Children confidently recall lemons. Children experience an extensive and wide range of educationally focused outings. Visits to the woods, parks and community venues provides them with real-life experiences and supports their physical health and well-being.

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

- The childminder is inspirational. She has high aspirations for all children. Her passion and dedication to her work shows as she provides children with exceptionally high-quality interactions throughout the day.
- The childminder is highly reflective. She knows what children know and can do. From this, she skilfully identifies areas that can be further enhanced to maintain the already high-quality provision.
- The childminder makes the most of every opportunity to build on children's prior knowledge through high-quality questioning and discussion. Children are keen to learn about a wide range of topics and recall information exceptionally well. All children make excellent progress across all areas of the curriculum.
- The childminder is a superb role model to children. She sensitively discusses with children how their actions might affect others. Children are kind to each other and cooperate extremely well as they play. She recognises and delights in their accomplishments, giving them praise and encouragement.
- The childminder takes time to get to know each child and relishes their individuality. She meticulously assesses their learning and tailors their development around their individual needs and abilities.
- The childminder supports children's emerging language extremely well. She

constantly talks to children about what they are doing, competently asking probing questions and introducing new vocabulary, for example, 'absorbent'.

- Children's behaviour towards each other and their attitudes to learning are excellent. They respect each other and show kindness. Children communicate confidently and benefit from the sensitive and positive interactions they receive from the childminder.
- The childminder supports children to develop an excellent understanding of their personal care needs. They learn to wash their hands and how crucial it is to remove germs.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent. They comment how their children settle incredibly quickly and how their siblings have also enjoyed being in the childminder's care. Parents talk about the 'exceptional' care their children receive and how they receive information to carry on their child's learning at home. The childminder works collaboratively with parents of children that need additional support to enable them to access professional services and acts on any advice.
- The childminder supports children that will move on to the next stage of their learning. She has established extremely close links with local schools. Testimony from these demonstrate she works very collaboratively with them to help children make the smoothest transition possible.
- The childminder promotes the development of fine motor skills using a range of activities. For example, she has purchased a resource that children use to screw into blocks using a range of tools, including screwdrivers and keys.
- The childminder has strong links with the local authority's early years support team. She networks with training providers and a group of childminders to keep her skills and knowledge up to date and relevant. The childminder is constantly evaluating, reflecting, improving and adapting her provision to meet the needs of each child.
- The childminder uses planned and spontaneous teaching to embed children's mathematical knowledge. Younger children learn to count by pointing to images and using their hands. Older children know numbers related to their age and begin to know that amounts can be added. All children explore shapes and patterns in their play.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY242289
Local authority	Bath and North East Somerset Council
Inspection number	10408223
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 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	11
Date of previous inspection	28 January 2020

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2003. She lives in Peasedown-St-John near Bath. She offers care from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Thursday, all year round. The childminder is accredited to receive government funding for children aged two, three and four years. She has a relevant childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lin Harvey

Inspection activities

- The inspector and the childminder discussed the intent of her curriculum.
- The inspector carried out an observation of an activity and discussed this with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the children and spoke with them at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and other agencies by reading their written reviews.

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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