

Childminder report

Inspection date: 25 November 2024

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The experienced childminder creates a warm and welcoming environment where children separate from parents with ease. She works closely with families to gain children's starting points and gets to know children well before they embark in her care. The childminder ensures that the activities and resources suit children's interests. For instance, tracks and toy engines are on offer along with trips to the ambulance and fire stations, for fans of vehicles. Children feel safe and secure and confidently move around the childminder's home, accessing toys and resources freely. They gesture or ask for help when it is needed and happily enjoy cosy cuddles with the childminder.

The childminder is a positive role model. Her calm manner helps children to relax and feel comfortable in her presence. She regularly praises children for good behaviour choices and efforts with their work and play. For example, children are praised for completing train tracks and building towers with plastic bricks. This supports children's self-confidence and well-being.

Children have lots of experiences to help support communication and language development. The childminder narrates what children are doing during their play and mimics what children say to help correct pronunciation of sounds and words that children struggle with. There are plentiful opportunities for sharing books and singing songs and rhymes. Children delight in re-telling known stories using pictures, such as 'The Gruffalo'. Children's vocabulary development is supported well.

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

- The childminder plans her curriculum to take into account children's likes and preferences as well as their next steps for development. She observes the children closely and regularly assesses what they can do. She uses tracking documents that help her to identify any gaps in children's knowledge or skills. As a result, children make good progress from their starting points.
- Children benefit from the wealth of opportunities the childminder provides to explore and be sociable. She plans many outings including trips to museums, forests, parks and the local library. These activities support children's physical and social development while boosting their self confidence in a variety of different situations.
- The childminder incorporates counting and mathematical language effectively. For instance, when children play with toys and blocks, she counts them and asks which is the biggest or smallest. Children are asked to spot house and bus numbers on the school run. During baking activities, children are encouraged to look at the numbers on scales and measure effectively. However, at times, the

childminder does not pitch activities at the correct level for the youngest children, and they can become disengaged.

- The childminder has formed strong attachments with the children in her care. Children clearly enjoy spending time with her and feel safe and well cared for. They listen attentively to songs and rhymes, behave well and appreciate their voices being heard. Options such as, 'Would you like to add fruit to your cakes?' or 'Which song would you like to sing?' are frequently offered. This helps to promote children's social and emotional development and gives them a sound sense of belonging.
- The childminder promotes children's good health. They discuss healthy food at snack times and enjoy daily outdoor physical activity and breathing fresh air. The childminder's ample garden space allows children to build strong, large-muscle strength through climbing on the climbing frame and 'driving' ride-on cars.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents' written and verbal feedback demonstrate high levels of appreciation and gratitude. They state that their children 'love the adventures' that they go on and that they trust her completely. Parents appreciate time devoted to getting to know children before they start care with the childminder and feel that this helps their child to settle with ease. Regular communication, online and in person, ensures that parents feel well informed about their child's development and progress.
- The childminder offers the children a wealth of experiences that they enjoy and gain from very much. However, she does not consistently provide children with experiences for them to learn about children and families from backgrounds that are different from themselves. Children are consequently gaining a limited understanding of communities beyond their own.
- The childminder is committed to her own professional development. She regularly attends a range of courses and keeps a log of these to ensure that she is expanding her current skills and knowledge. This helps her to provide the best care that she can.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen teaching to ensure that the youngest children are fully engaged in planned activities that reflect their individual learning needs
- develop planning further to deepen children's understanding of people that differ from themselves.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY245001
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10367948
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 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	4 March 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2003. She lives in the Old Basing area of Basingstoke, Hampshire. The childminder works from Monday to Thursday, 7.30am to 5.45pm, all year round. She holds an appropriate home-based childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Zoe Abraham

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of education provided and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure that they are safe and suitable for children.
- Parents shared their views on the setting with the inspector through written and verbal feedback.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.
- The inspector tracked the experiences of children and observed activities and interactions.

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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