

# Childminder report

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Inspection date:

13 December 2023

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## **Overall effectiveness**

## **Outstanding**

The quality of education

**Outstanding**

Behaviour and attitudes

**Outstanding**

Personal development

**Outstanding**

Leadership and management

**Outstanding**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Good

## What is it like to attend this early years setting?

### The provision is outstanding

Children are extremely settled and secure in their environment. They have wonderful attachments with the childminder and each other. The childminder has embedded a curriculum that is ambitious and allows children to explore their curiosity, particularly surrounding nature and the outdoors. The childminder uses her deep-rooted knowledge of child development to ensure children are challenged in all areas of learning. As a result, children thrive in their learning and development and they are ready for their next stage of learning. For example, children practise more intricate physical skills when peeling, folding and fitting letters into small envelopes to post in their home-made postbox. This supports their future handwriting skills. Children have great fun when dancing and singing with their home-made 'jingle sticks', following instructions well when waving them 'high', 'low', 'fast' and 'slow'.

Children's behaviour is excellent. They play harmoniously together, taking turns and sharing resources. The childminder praises children's behaviour and is extremely attentive to children's needs and specific skills. For example, children show immense pride when spotting the number six. The childminder swiftly engages with this learning by skilfully explaining that it is a number nine, however when turned around, it looks like a six. The childminder ensures that children have time to process this new learning. Children show exceptional understanding of boundaries, resilience and patience.

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

- The childminder has detailed knowledge of children's individual stages of development and interests. She uses this well when coherently planning enriching opportunities for children. The childminder recognises how to sequence children's learning, providing them with the ability to reach their full potential. For example, children attend a stay-and-play group weekly to support their social skills and interactions, in preparation for their transition into school.
- The childminder uses observation and assessment effectively to track children's individual learning and development. She uses information that she collates as soon as children start, to inform their starting points and next steps in learning. The childminder shares these with parents regularly and, as a result, gaps in children's learning are swiftly identified. She is proactive when contacting other settings that children attend, to share important information regarding children's learning.
- Promoting children's communication and language is given the highest regard and the childminder uses highly skilled interactions to extend language exceptionally well. Children enjoy focusing on stories, such as the 'The Jolly Christmas Postman'. This is extended by creating a post office role-play area.

Children enjoy using new vocabulary such as 'envelopes' and 'stamps' and recall a trip to the postbox. Children are confident communicators and articulate themselves well.

- The childminder appreciates the importance of nature and offers wonderful experiences for children to engage with their natural world. They visit local farms, woods and parks and, as a result, are learning about their community and the world around them. Children confidently recall a recent walk by a stream where they played 'Pooh sticks'. The childminder uses this opportunity to explore language such as 'long', 'short', 'sinking' and 'floating'. Children discuss who had the 'biggest stick'. This supports children's mathematical development.
- The childminder promotes health and hygiene well. Children are extremely independent when toileting and washing hands. Children show confidence when dressing for outside and enjoy discussions about healthy foods. They suggest how healthy foods 'give you energy'. Children talk about oral hygiene during a story and the childminder asks children how they look after their teeth at home. Children respond, 'I brush my teeth for two minutes.'
- Parents are overwhelmingly positive about their children's experiences with the childminder. They comment on the 'exceptional information-sharing' surrounding road safety, oral hygiene and online safety. Parents very much appreciate the experiences and opportunities their children are given to learn and play indoors and outdoors. Parents relay how the childminder is very attentive and thoughtful towards the needs of themselves and their children.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder can identify the signs and symptoms that may indicate that a child is at risk of harm. She knows who to contact if she has concerns about a child's safety and welfare. The childminder provides a safe and secure place for children to play and learn and is vigilant in keeping children safe. She understands the importance of keeping her own knowledge of a range of safeguarding issues up to date. She holds an appropriate paediatric first-aid qualification. This helps to ensure children's safety while in her care.

## Setting details

|                                                    |                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>                     | EY290221                                                                          |
| <b>Local authority</b>                             | Devon                                                                             |
| <b>Inspection number</b>                           | 10317389                                                                          |
| <b>Type of provision</b>                           | Childminder                                                                       |
| <b>Registers</b>                                   | Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register |
| <b>Day care type</b>                               | Childminder                                                                       |
| <b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b> | 3 to 7                                                                            |
| <b>Total number of places</b>                      | 6                                                                                 |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>                  | 8                                                                                 |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b>                 | 15 May 2018                                                                       |

## Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in the village of Gittisham, near Honiton. She offers care for children Monday to Wednesday, including occasional school holidays, from 8am to 4.30pm. The childminder holds a relevant level 3 qualification and provides funded early education for children aged three years.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Chelsea Woollard

### 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 childminder.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises their early years provision, including the aims and rationale for their early years foundation stage curriculum.
- Children communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.

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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