

Childminder report

Inspection date: 2 March 2020

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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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 children thrive in the childminder's care. They are extremely secure, confident and self-assured, and welcome visitors into the childminder's home.

Children value the ideas and opinions of their friends. They are patient and listen to instructions as their peers explain how to play dominoes, a game that they brought into the setting from home. The childminder has exceptional teaching skills and actively engages with children. She demonstrates this as she skilfully introduces the concept of calculation, such as 'more than' and 'less than', as children place down their playing cards.

Children show positive attitudes towards learning. They illustrate this as they eagerly look for hidden dinosaurs in the secret garden, pretending to be hunters. Children negotiate exceptionally well together. They make up their own version of hide and seek, demonstrate excellent problem-solving skills and decide what they need to do in order to hide dinosaurs, such as in plant pots. They remove stones and persevere in their task until they achieve their goal. Children's curiosity and investigation flows from one activity to another. For example, children adapt their game and bury painted stones in the soil. They work as a team, eagerly dig them back up and use them to create facial features. The childminder fosters these opportunities to build on children's understanding of similarities and differences, such as diversity in the wider world.

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

- The childminder makes excellent use of regular and detailed assessments. She works exceptionally well with children's parents to set very precise targets to help children make rapid progress. The childminder illustrates this as she follows children's interests highly effectively to actively challenge and maximise their learning and development at every opportunity. For example, children discuss the features of their dinosaur models in detail and show a real desire to look through a research book to match them to pictures. The childminder skilfully encourages them to think about each dinosaur's specific features, such as their spikes, horns and long necks. Children demonstrate an excellent understanding of the world and describe how these features might be used, for example, to eat leaves from trees. They show incredible communication skills and learn lots of new vocabulary in this way.
- The childminder expertly builds on children's early mathematical skills as they engage in play. For example, children successfully assemble animals into family groups and compare differences in size. They use their imagination well, utilise string as a resource to measure, and use language such as 'bigger' and 'smaller'. Children are highly motivated and lead their own learning exceptionally well.

They introduce a tape measure into their play and show an excellent understanding of written number for their young age.

- The childminder significantly enhances children's health, welfare and well-being due to the exceptional level of care she provides. For example, children explain to visitors that they need to clean their hands to wash away germs. They carefully spread butter on their hot cross bun and cut up their fruit at snack time. Children learn to make healthy choices. They illustrate this as they join in active discussions and decide what they would like for their lunch. Parents are highly complimentary about the nutritious and balanced food the childminder provides for their children.
- Children have wonderful opportunities to enjoy fresh air and exercise at the childminder's home or on outings in the community. They assess their own risk and learn how to keep themselves safe, such as using tools safely to dig in the soil and when lifting plant pots to search for bugs. Children show a love of the outdoor environment and the natural world.
- The childminder is highly experienced and is genuinely committed to rigorously evaluating her practice. For instance, following paediatric first-aid training and a recent evacuation drill, she has updated her emergency policies and procedures. The childminder demonstrates an uncompromising drive to ensure she provides the very best for each child. She constantly seeks the views of parents and children and meets with other early years professionals to share excellent practices. The childminder has completed courses to enhance her knowledge about enhancing children's early reading and writing development. This has had a positive impact on children's ongoing development. Children make outstanding progress from their starting points.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is very alert to the indicators that a child may be at risk of harm or neglect. She explains reporting procedures, should she have concerns about the welfare of a child, extremely confidently. The childminder provides children with sensitive support and gentle reminders to help them develop a sense of responsibility highly effectively. For example, children independently put their hand over their mouth when they cough, find a tissue to wipe their nose and wash their hands without prompting. The childminder is vigilant about children's safety at all times. Her highly effective risk assessments help to reduce any potential hazards and keep children safe.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY331288
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10136461
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	3 to 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	11
Date of previous inspection	7 December 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2006. She lives in the Chandler's Ford area of Eastleigh, in Hampshire. The childminder works Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, from 7.30am to 5.30pm and on a Wednesday morning 7.30am to 9am. She provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. The childminder has an early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jane Franks

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to children and read written statements from parents to gain their views of the childminder's provision.
- Discussions were held with the childminder relating to safeguarding and the self-evaluation process.
- Relevant documentation was reviewed by the childminder, such as training certificates and public liability insurance.
- The inspector observed the childminder interacting with children. She assessed the impact of her teaching on what children know and can do and discussed her observations with the childminder.
- The childminder showed the inspector around the areas of her home that are used for childcare. She talked about the different activities she provides to support children's learning and development.

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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