

Childminder report

Inspection date: 25 October 2024

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
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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 childminder plans enjoyable activities that enthuse children to learn. Children have outstanding attitudes to learning. They become totally engrossed in their play. Children concentrate for very long periods of time as they explore different sensory activities. The childminder supports children to learn very good manners and join in with new activities. For example, young children are highly motivated to find out how a large syringe works. They keep trying to fill it with coloured water and transfer the water into pots. The childminder encourages children to explore new resources and work things out for themselves. This helps them develop problem-solving skills and an exceptionally positive attitude to learning.

The childminder plans good opportunities for children to get fresh air and exercise. For instance, they enjoy woodland walks and collect natural resources. The childminder encourages children to be creative. For example, they return home and use spiky leaves to create hedgehog pictures. The childminder makes sure the home languages of children are incorporated in their play and learning. She reads books with children with words from their home language. She helps children learn about festivals celebrated by different cultures. Children love to show the childminder and her assistants pictures of their families. The childminder discusses children's family and friends and supports them to develop strong friendships with each other. Older children are very kind and considerate. They support younger children as they play. For instance, they help get younger children a magnifying glass to join in a bug hunt in the garden.

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

- The childminder reflects on what she does well and how she can continually improve her setting. This has led to a recent change in the learning environment. The childminder explains that children are now more focused in their play and enjoy being in her spacious homely setting.
- The childminder works very effectively with assistants. This creates a harmonious and nurturing environment for children to play and learn.
- The childminder enjoys developing her knowledge through training and reading different publications. She recently completed a course about nutrition and health. This helped develop her knowledge about healthy diets and supporting children's well-being. The childminder has regular discussions with any assistants she works with to help them develop their teaching skills and safeguarding knowledge.
- The childminder communicates well with parents. She encourages them to take resources home to support their children's learning and development. Parents appreciate the wide range of activities their children enjoy, especially the trips to the woods, the beach and cafes.

- The childminder helps children plant seeds and learn how to grow different plants. They enjoy watching how tall their sunflowers grow. Children recall with the childminder how they watched caterpillars turn into cocoons, then butterflies. This helps children develop an understanding of the natural world.
- The childminder plans a curriculum that successfully reflects children's interests. She uses her good knowledge of each child's abilities to plan for next steps in their learning. However, on occasion, the intentions for children's learning, such as understanding instructions, are not woven into activities. At these times, children do not get the best opportunities to develop their understanding.
- The childminder skilfully plans activities that help children develop the small muscles in their hands. For example, children are encouraged to use tongs to pick items up, and they pick seeds from pumpkins. Their learning is extended as they are encouraged to count the seeds, strengthening their understanding of mathematics.
- The childminder supports children to develop good independence skills. For example, children learn to wash their hands and put their coats on. Children enjoy baking and shopping for their own ingredients. They regularly explore their local community, for example by taking part in park trips, dog walks and a trip to the vet.
- The childminder helps children develop understanding of small risks. For example, they learn to balance, climb and slide safely during soft play sessions. They learn how to play with water under close supervision and how to cut fruit safely.
- With the support of the childminder, children develop very good social skills and behaviour. The childminder expertly fosters children's high levels of curiosity. For example, children are fascinated as they explore how items sink or float. They learn about nature and different textures through carefully planned activities, such as exploring foam inside pumpkins and smelling herbs.

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:

- enhance the adult support during activities to focus more precisely on the planned learning intentions for each child.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY337749
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10355177
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 3
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	20 November 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Blackwater, Hampshire. She operates from 7am to 6pm, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, all year round. She works with assistants. The childminder holds a recognised early years qualification at level 6.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Charlotte Foster

Inspection activities

- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for the children's learning.
- The inspector assessed the understanding of the childminder and her assistants of how to keep children safe.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The childminder and the inspector carried out a joint observation of a planned activity.
- 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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