

Childminder report

Inspection date: 15 January 2025

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

Children thrive in the warm, home-from-home environment the childminder has created. The childminder's calm, kind and cheerful manner puts children at ease. They feel happy, safe and secure in her care, receiving plenty of reassuring cuddles. The childminder recognises the significant impact these strong relationships have on children's learning and development.

The childminder has a well-planned curriculum, knows the children in her care well and organises suitable activities to guide them successfully towards their next stage of learning. Toddlers develop social skills as they take turns practising threading blocks onto a thread, observing their friends and waiting patiently. This activity also helps them develop hand-eye coordination and independence skills. Older children confidently recognise their name when it is written down and other letter sounds. The childminder supports them in understanding how to make marks with a pen.

Children of all ages develop their physical skills as they dance to music, moving their bodies to songs, and build their creative abilities by playing different instruments, such as toy trumpets and xylophones. They gain knowledge of rhythm and musical patterns. The childminder celebrates the children's achievements, and children are engaged and curious learners. Outdoors, children are supported in their imaginative play, going 'shopping' with the childminder's guidance. They drive toy cars to the 'shops', pretend to buy apples and discuss how they will eat them at snack time. Children thoroughly enjoy playing with the childminder, who helps build their imaginative play skills.

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

- Children are considerate and respectful towards their friends and the childminder. They respond eagerly to the childminder's requests, such as washing their hands before snack time. The childminder explains why she asks children to do things, like putting their boots away tidily so people do not trip on them. She helps children understand how their behaviour affects others. Children share their toys with each other. Older children kindly bring toys for younger children to play with.
- The childminder often reads books and stories to children. There is a strong focus on helping children develop a love of reading and to understand things beyond their own experiences. The childminder selects books that tie in with the children's interests. For example, after children play with toy dinosaurs, she reads a book about dinosaurs. The childminder reads in a lively and engaging way. She encourages children to join in with stories, pointing out the pictures on each page and helping them explore. As they read, she helps children identify the images in the book and learn new words, such as 'volcano'. Older children

count the things they find with her in the book, confidently counting up to 10.

- There is a strong focus on developing children's communications skills. The childminder speaks clearly and cheerfully so children can learn new words. Young children speak confidently and have a wide vocabulary. They explain that the water from the tap has 'splashed' them. The childminder often sings songs to develop the children's vocabulary. She guides them to make choices, such as what they would like to play with or eat. She helps them recall prior knowledge, but her questions often only require short answers and do not encourage children to explore their ideas and interests further.
- Children enjoy spending time playing outdoors, and the childminder builds children's knowledge of the local wildlife and nature. She supports children to watch the birds that come to the window to eat bird food. They discuss the names of the birds and count how many there are. The childminder takes children to explore the local woodland and nature on regular nature hunts.
- The childminder helps children gain a good understanding of their individuality. Children are encouraged to take appropriate risks and challenges, and their physical and emotional health is supported. For instance, the childminder is part of a scheme that promotes good oral hygiene in the early years. However, the childminder does not routinely help children develop an understanding and appreciation of diversity, including celebrating similarities and differences and learning about other religions and cultures.
- Parents report that their children receive good care from the childminder. They state that their children make good progress in learning and development, particularly in building their social and communication skills. Parents explain that children love their time with the childminder.

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:

- engage children in conversations that support and encourage them to explore their ideas and interests even further
- extend opportunities to support children to understand and celebrate similarities and differences and to learn more about different religions and cultures.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY368678
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	10376014
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 10
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	13
Date of previous inspection	14 May 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Upavon, Wiltshire. She operates from 8am to 6pm, each weekday, during term time only. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She offers government funded spaces for childcare.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Victoria Jones

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of the curriculum during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of the childminder and people living in their home.
- The inspector read feedback from parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

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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