

Childminder report

Inspection date: 1 May 2025

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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

Children are exceptionally well cared for and safe in the childminder's warm and homely setting. The childminder has established very strong relationships with children and families and greets them enthusiastically on arrival. Children settle quickly and are excited to start their day. They flourish in the nurturing and highly interesting environment that the childminder provides. The childminder is a great role model for children. She is highly engaging and extremely attentive to children's individual needs. She values each child in her care and understands the importance of giving them the best possible start in their learning journey. She thoroughly collects information about children before they start at the setting to identify their starting points, such as assessments completed by parents. She uses this information incredibly well, alongside her own assessments to tailor her teaching practice to each child's learning and development needs.

The childminder is committed to enhancing children's learning experiences. She consistently takes children out on well-thought-out trips to help strengthen their social skills and understanding of community. For example, children enjoy visits to the library and parks. Furthermore, the childminder has established partnerships with other local childminders. They collectively arrange visits to natural attractions, such as a large pond area, and are fully engrossed during interactions with park rangers while learning about flora and fauna.

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

- The childminder has a robust knowledge and understanding of child development and the early years framework. She uses her secure knowledge to plan a well-thought-out and ambitious curriculum that meets the requirements of all the children in her care. The childminder provides high-quality activities linked to children's ages and stages of development. She has a clear understanding of what she wants children to know and be able to do. Furthermore, she expertly weaves children's interests into the curriculum. For instance, children's fascination with animals and sea creatures are used as themes for topics. Children enjoy using chalks to create an ocean for fish and using water sprays to recreate their habitat. As a result, children are highly engaged and motivated to learn.
- The childminder is highly committed to supporting children to develop skills in communication and language. She uses every opportunity to weave meaningful conversation into their experiences that inspire them to think of new ideas. She consistently introduces children to new words, such as ocean and sea. Children enthusiastically learn descriptive vocabulary through songs. Furthermore, she understands the importance of making sure they understand the meaning of words. For instance, during a musical instrument's activity, children learn words

such as 'shake, shake, shake' are linked to the sound maracas make.

- The childminder supports children's physical development and well-being effectively. Children develop skills in hand-eye coordination while balancing a ball, and learn how to steady themselves while using stepping stone equipment. The childminder teaches children about oral health through enjoyable activities, such as cleaning a crocodile's teeth. Children develop a strong understanding of healthy lifestyles.
- Mathematics is seamlessly incorporated into children's learning and development. For instance, children learn mathematical concepts linked to speed and distance while rolling vehicles and other resources down ramps. Children develop a strong understanding of numbers. The childminder consistently encourages children to count in sequence and supports them to link amount to numerals.
- Children develop a passion for books and stories. The childminder ensures that literacy is an integral part of children's learning experiences. For example, children have daily opportunities to choose familiar stories, linked to weekly themes of learning, such as books about sea creatures. Children excitedly use familiar words and phrases, such as 'shark in the park'. The childminder encourages children to interact with stories, such as answering questions and pointing to pictures. As a result, children are confident to share their thoughts and ideas.
- The childminder is extremely committed to her own professional development. She regularly connects with other local childminders to discuss new ideas. The childminder seeks out training designed to help children develop social and emotional skills, and awareness of diversity and inclusion. This very successfully contributes to children's extremely positive behaviour and attitudes towards others.
- Partnerships with parents is excellent. Parents are extremely happy with the exceptional care the childminder provides. The childminder is highly motivated to ensure that parents are included. She updates them daily with children's experiences and progress. Parents share their knowledge of children's progress and update the childminder with experiences of family outings. The childminder uses the information extremely well to plan an exciting curriculum tailored to children's individual needs. This helps to provide continuity of care and learning for children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY374893
Local authority	Portsmouth
Inspection number	10392300
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 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	14 August 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Portsmouth. The provision operates all year round, Tuesday to Thursday, from 7.45am to 6.00pm. The childminder receives funding for free early education for children aged 9 months, two, three and four years. She holds a qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Loretta Murphy

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure they are safe and suitable.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning and development.
- The inspector viewed a sample of documentation, including paediatric first-aid training certificate and suitability checks.
- Parent's views were taken account of by the inspector.
- Children spoke with the inspector during the inspection.

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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