

Childminder report

Inspection date: 27 January 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

Children thrive in the care of this passionate and dedicated childminder. Children develop extremely high levels of confidence in this nurturing and homely environment, which meets their needs wholeheartedly. Children have a positive attitude to learning and are exceedingly well motivated. They thoroughly enjoy their daily outings, absorbing the awe and wonder of nature around them. They show great excitement when they see the purple flowers beginning to grow and are intrigued by a feather they find. The childminder has the highest expectations for children, questioning them effectively to help them think about ways they could use the feather in their play. The childminder uses these walks in the local environment exceedingly well to help prepare children for future learning. For example, older children are very keen to point out familiar letters in house and road signs, growing a greater understanding of how to link sounds and letters that are familiar to them.

Children's behaviour is exemplary. The childminder is an excellent role model, showing children respect and helping even the youngest children to understand behavioural expectations. Children receive continuous praise, which builds high levels of self-esteem and enables children to be extremely confident when exploring their own ideas. She celebrates achievements exceedingly well with all children, such as when a younger child says a new word. Children follow daily routines with confidence and show impressive levels of independence. For example, they know to visit the toilet and wash their hands before finding their coats and shoes to put on before their daily walk.

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

- The childminder implements her training extremely well and demonstrates an immense depth of knowledge about how children learn, their interests and next steps. She provides excellent support and guidance to inspire her assistants. The childminder frequently models exemplary teaching and makes observations of her assistants' interactions with children to great success to enable children to reach their full potential. For example, she gives in-depth instruction on how focused activities should be organised and how to use them to inspire individual children's learning highly successfully. She works extremely closely with her co-childminders and other early years professionals to continue to raise the quality of education and outcomes for children.
- Children immerse themselves in their learning and confidently explore their own ideas. The childminder provides very good opportunities for younger children to make marks with paint. She provides an excellent narrative to their actions to build on their vocabulary. She then skilfully redirects their explorations to help them extend their ideas and explore even further. The childminder successfully

includes all children in the focused activity at their own level of understanding. For example, she challenges older children superbly as they show interest in how numbers are written in different languages, as part of their Chinese New Year topic. She supports children's discoveries very well, such as encouraging them to explore how they can write with the feather they found earlier.

- Children's communication and language development is exceedingly well supported. There are a wealth of opportunities for children to engage in conversations and offer their opinions. On their walk to the park, children delight in talking about nature and their discoveries. They listen well, especially when considering safety along the roads. The childminder questions children highly effectively, listening to their responses and encouraging them to ask questions. This helps children make connections and recall previous walks and outings.
- The childminder encourages children to assess risk and to solve simple problems independently. For example, when young children struggle to climb a step to the swings the childminder helps them to find a solution, praising their attempts and encouraging high levels of self-esteem.
- The childminder works extremely closely with parents to ensure she and her assistants meet children's care needs highly successfully. For example, the childminder ensures that resources are readily available and that children are able to visit the toilet independently and at their own pace. There is highly effective communication with parents, which enables excellent continuity in care, learning and development.
- Children feel happy and form strong relationships with the childminder and her assistants, which supports their emotional security. The childminder models 'meditation' extremely well to help children recognise the importance of being calm and reflective. She is considerate of children's needs, such as ensuring that they understand routines, expectations and what will be happening next so that they can prepare. She is extremely mindful of children's emotional needs, ensuring, for instance, that comfort toys are visible and easily accessible so that children stay engaged in their play.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder and her assistants attend regular training to ensure they have excellent knowledge of child protection issues, including wider safeguarding concerns. They recognise the importance of being vigilant and maintaining strong partnerships with other early years settings and agencies to maintain a consistent approach. The childminder has excellent measures in place to ensure that her assistants are suitable for their role and remain so. The childminder and her assistants ensure children's safety is of a high priority and use their thorough risk assessments highly effectively to ensure children remain safe both inside and on outings.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY416061
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	10139621
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 11
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	43
Date of previous inspection	8 October 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2010. She lives in Landkey, near Barnstaple, North Devon. The childminder works alongside two other childminders and employs two part-time assistants. The childminder is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The childminder operates Monday to Friday, from 8am to 6.30pm, for 46 weeks per year.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Rachael Williams

Inspection activities

- A learning walk was completed with the childminder to discuss the curriculum and the environment.
- The inspector observed the childminder's interactions with children as they played inside and discussed their learning.
- The written views of parents were taken into account.
- A sample of documentation was observed, including assistants' suitability records.
- The inspector accompanied the childminder and children on a walk to the park.

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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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