

Childminder report

Inspection date: 22 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 are exceptionally happy and flourish in the childminder's care. She is passionate in ensuring children reach their full potential ready for their next stage of learning.

The childminder provides children with a wide range of innovative activities that capture their interest. For instance, they thoroughly enjoy exploring and investigating coloured noodles. Younger children learn about different textures. They work out how to use tools to transport noodles to and from various containers. Older children learn about cooking food with a wok. They manipulate chopsticks impressively to pick up the noodles, which strengthens their hand muscles. All children use different parts of their body to paint a Chinese dragon to extend their creativity even further. At mealtimes, children relish in trying new foods, such as prawn crackers and sweet chilli dipping sauce. They look at Chinese writing and compare it to English and see how symbols replace words. Children learn extensively about other people who live in the wider world.

Children's behaviour is exemplary. They show the utmost respect for the childminder's home and each other. For example, children walk along the 'road' that the childminder has creatively made from carpet samples. This helps to keep floor surfaces clean when children move between the indoor and outdoor area. Younger and older children share and take turns consistently. They understand and follow the house rules meticulously to keep themselves safe.

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

- The childminder ensures that all children have the same opportunities. This helps them to make the best possible progress in their development. She provides extensive opportunities for children to experience the outdoor environment. For example, children take their first visit to the beach, where they excitedly feel the sand between their hands and feet.
- Children excitedly take part in engaging activities that the childminder plans for them. They show great skill in hammering golf tees into a cardboard box. Children show excellent hand-to-eye coordination, precisely tapping the tees into place. They show strong determination and perseverance until all the tees are in the holes. The childminder continues to challenge children. She encourages them to place the tees into the side of the box. She also provides different-sized tees and talks to children about which ones are easier to use. Children decide which tools, such as the hammer, the saw, screwdriver or spatula, will work best. Children find out that all tools will help them to succeed, but that some are more effective. They show excellent problem-solving skills.
- The childminder has formed excellent relationships with parents. Parents state

that the childminder has 'high standards of care', and that she is 'completely dedicated to her job'. The childminder provides informative newsletters to parents about the activities she offers. She discusses how parents can use activities at home to support their children's learning further. Older children write their own thoughts about the childminder. For example, they state they have lots of fun and enjoy baking, drawing and painting together.

- Children are highly independent. The childminder encourages them to develop the key skills needed before starting school. For instance, children confidently put clothes on dolls and enjoy wearing dressing-up costumes to help them manage their own self-care. The childminder has introduced a 'nose-wiping station'. This encourages all children to develop effective hygiene procedures.
- The childminder has a detailed understanding of child development. She continues to attend frequent training to benefit children. For instance, she has shared effective strategies with parents to support children's toilet training at home. She has made imaginative 'story boxes'. This enables children to have daily access to an extensive range of books to enhance their literacy skills. The childminder encourages children to praise one another. Children develop very high levels of confidence and self-esteem.
- Links with other professionals are exemplary. The childminder attends training with the local school to enhance her provision. For instance, children access extra mathematical games through technology. This supports their already strong understanding of numbers. The childminder works closely with other childminders in the area. They carry out extensive observations on each other's practice. They reflect exceptionally well on the quality of teaching to benefit children.
- The childminder is a positive role model. She consistently supports children's communication skills. Younger children use a wide range of sounds in play, for instance when playing with cars. Older children are articulate and use complete sentences to talk about their experiences.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is vigilant in ensuring her premises are safe for children. For example, she carries out monthly checks on her smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors to ensure they are in good working order. The childminder makes sure safety controls are in place on all technology devices to protect children from online risks. She has a thorough understanding of child protection procedures. The childminder attends regular safeguarding training to keep her knowledge refreshed. She is confident to contact relevant agencies if she has concerns about a child's welfare.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY436536
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	10125748
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 to 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	18
Date of previous inspection	18 May 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011. She lives in Ivybridge, Devon, and offers care on Monday and Wednesday from 8am to 6pm, and on Thursday from 8am to 5pm, all year round. The childminder receives funding for children aged two, three and four years. She holds a level 4 qualification in early years care and education.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Joanne Steward

Inspection activities

- The childminder and the inspector carried out a learning walk and discussed how the activities were organised to benefit the children.
- Letters from parents were read to gain their thoughts on the childminder and her provision.
- The inspector spoke to the children and the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- A joint observation was carried out with the childminder.
- Various documentation was looked at by the inspector, such as the safeguarding and complaints policy.

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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