

Childminder Report

Inspection date

12 May 2016

Previous inspection date

2 March 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The experienced childminder has kept her knowledge updated through astute choice of professional development opportunities that have enabled her to continually improve her service and maintain her exceptionally high standards.
- Children make exceptionally good progress from their initial starting levels. They are eager learners, who are curious to find out about their world, and the people and things in it.
- The childminder provides an excellent role model for children and their behaviour is exemplary.
- The childminder feeds children's curiosity through providing rich learning environments that include, for example, outside areas with a treasure trove of objects to explore.
- The children know that the childminder will look after them and they trust her to meet their physical needs, which she does exceedingly well. The childminder places children's welfare at the heart of her work and is extremely vigilant in regard to their safety.
- The childminder establishes excellent partnerships with parents and others involved with the children. They play a substantial role in identifying and deciding areas for improvement. These close partnerships support a highly successful joint approach to children's learning, both at home and in the other early years settings that children attend.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- extend further the range of opportunities for children to use technology in their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed resources and children's play in the garden, on the patio and indoors.
- The inspector took into account parents' views through their letters and a telephone conversation. Children's views were taken into account through talking to them.
- The inspector and childminder observed children's play together, and discussed the children's learning.
- The inspector examined a range of documents, which included feedback from the local authority support staff, training certificates, children's assessment records and safeguarding policies.
- The inspector had discussions with the childminder at convenient times throughout the inspection.

Inspector

Rosemary Davies

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder has extremely high expectations of the children and herself. She pays close attention to checking the quality of her service to ensure that children do as well as they can. For example, she keeps comprehensive records of children's learning and addresses any weaker areas. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is fully aware of her role in protecting children from harm. She evaluates her practice rigorously, such as by reading relevant websites every six months to check for new trends. She introduces innovative ideas to improve learning environments, such as making a 'sound post', which entices the children to explore different sounds. Children's views help the childminder to decide activities; however, children do not have the best opportunities to use technology.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder makes excellent use of her skills and qualifications to guide, encourage and challenge the children. For example, she follows the children's play interests closely, asking questions, making suggestions and extending their learning. The childminder knows exactly what aspects of a child's development need to be worked on and, for example, interweaves related teaching into activities. She is very highly skilled at extending learning, for example when encouraging children to recall and sequence events by asking whether they remember going to Dorchester on the train. Different aspects of learning spill seamlessly into one another, such as during detailed conversations that promote children's speech development extremely well. The childminder stretches children's thinking, such as when they count strides to decide how long the patio is, but puzzle over why the childminder takes fewer steps, and then decide that hers are longer.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The children gain excellent social and personal skills. They benefit from a rich range of outings. For example, children go to coffee mornings where they chat with elderly people; this experience helps them to get on with others who are different from themselves and to be polite. The childminder gives first-rate support to children's understanding of healthy living. For example, she makes excellent use of the locality and takes children on walks to the beach, where they benefit from long periods in the fresh air. Children develop their self-assurance extremely well. For instance, they proudly show how they walk down steep steps without the childminder by safely holding a handrail.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are extremely well prepared for the next stage of their education. They sustain conversations, listen intently, follow instructions and count accurately. They have a 'can do' attitude to trying new experiences and persevere to achieve success. For example, they bubble with delight when they reach personal goals of learning to hop.

Setting details

Unique reference number	140931
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	1032165
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 5
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	2 March 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1992. She is located in Weymouth, Dorset. The childminder holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3. The childminder is available on weekdays from 7am until 7pm, all year round, apart from personal holidays.

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