

Childminder Report

Inspection date

1 November 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children are happy, settled and content. The childminder supports children well in gaining skills to manage their behaviour and to help them learn to play cooperatively.
- The childminder knows children well as individuals. She checks their development effectively, which helps her to identify and address gaps in their learning. Children make good progress.
- Children have access to an extensive range of play equipment and resources, indoors and outdoors. For example, children relish being able to explore the exciting outdoor areas and investigate the sensory materials, such as soil, sand, leaves and conkers.
- Regular exchange of information with other early years settings that children attend helps to promote good continuity for children's care and learning.
- Children's communication skills are promoted effectively. For example, the childminder and her assistants constantly model language to help build on children's vocabulary.
- The childminder reflects on her practice continually to evaluate what is working well and what needs to improve, taking into account the views of the parents and children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, the childminder does not organise activities that are geared to the younger children's abilities to help keep them fully engaged and motivated.
- The childminder does not make the most of opportunities to engage the parents in promoting healthy eating practices to fully support all children's good health.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the organisation of activities to increase younger children's engagement and involvement, to help all children reach their full potential
- strengthen the good partnerships with parents even further to help support children in developing healthy eating practices and to promote their good health.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and interaction between the childminder, her assistant and the children, and reviewed the play equipment and resources.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and her assistant at appropriate times during the inspection, including discussing the impact of teaching after viewing activities.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises used for childminding and talked to the children at appropriate times.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including a sample of children's records.
- The inspector discussed how the childminder evaluates her provision.

Inspector

Dinah Round

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder has a professional approach to her childminding role and continuous professional development. She constantly reflects on her practice and increases her knowledge effectively, such as undertaking an early years degree. For example, this gave her a greater insight into promoting physical movement for children so she increased the outdoor play opportunities provided. The childminder monitors her assistants' practice to ensure that children receive good-quality care and support. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder and her assistants have a good knowledge of safeguarding children and how to help children understand the importance of staying safe. They are clear on the procedures to follow if they have concerns. Relationships with parents are good. Detailed information about the childminder's provision is shared with the parents. They report positively about how she helps their children to progress in their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder and her assistants support children's learning and development well. They communicate effectively with parents to gather information about each child's starting points so they can plan for children's next steps. Overall, children enjoy a wide variety of challenging and enjoyable activities. For example, they have fun looking for the different numbered pebbles hidden under the leaves and twigs, and are able to recognise some of the numerals. Children show good control as they scoop and transfer the wet sand into their toy trucks. The childminder gets involved in their play to extend learning further. For example, she introduces mathematical language, such as 'full', 'inside' and 'on top', to skilfully develop their understanding of shape, space and measurement.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a safe and welcoming environment. Children form warm and trusting relationships with the childminder and her assistants. They are secure and show good levels of confidence as they move around the play areas to select toys and play equipment. The childminder and her assistants are good role models and teach children to consider the needs of others. For example, children learn to share and take turns, such as when playing with the cars and trains on the track. The childminder promotes positive behaviour through praise, which helps to boost the children's self-esteem.

Outcomes for children are good

Children acquire new skills that prepare them well for the next stage in their learning. They show good levels of independence as they manage tasks for themselves, such as feeding themselves and putting on their wellington boots to go outdoors. Children go on frequent outings around their local environment to enrich their learning experiences. For instance, they take part in autumnal walks to collect items to use in their creative play activities. Children have regular opportunities to use writing tools, indoors and outdoors, helping to support the development of their early literacy skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY490125
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	1016055
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	9
Number of children on roll	12
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2015. She lives in Dorchester, in Dorset. She works with assistants, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, all year round. The childminder holds an early years degree at level 6 and her assistants hold early years qualifications at level 3.

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