

Childminder Report

Inspection date

12 June 2018

Previous inspection date

11 August 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- The childminder is caring and welcomes each child warmly. Children respond happily to her and gain a positive sense of emotional security in her care.
- The childminder provides a wide range of motivating play experiences for children that supports their participation well. Children enjoy their play and make good progress.
- Children behave very well and develop good self-esteem. The childminder maintains clear boundaries and praises children often for their efforts and achievements.
- Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder keeps parents well informed about children's daily activities and shares ideas about supporting children's development.
- The childminder promotes children's understanding of the world effectively. For example, children enjoy seeing the lambs and chickens on a visit to a nearby farm. They sometimes go to see aeroplanes take off and land in a nearby airfield.
- The childminder regularly meets with other childminders and attends local childcare meetings to share ideas to help her improve children's play. For example, she now uses more natural toys and resources to encourage their imaginations.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not use self-evaluation as well as possible to identify ways to develop her practice even further and support children's learning to a higher level.
- The childminder has not considered further ways to support and develop all aspects of children's physical abilities to help them gain more control with their early writing skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen evaluation systems further to identify areas to improve more precisely and enhance children's learning and development even more effectively
- provide more opportunities for children to develop all aspects of their physical abilities to support their early writing skills more effectively.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's interactions in play indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector viewed documentation, such as operational procedures, policies and required records, including first aid, qualification and insurance certificates.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation of an activity with the childminder and discussed children's learning and development.
- The inspector took into account the written views of parents.
- The inspector spoke to children and held discussions with the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Mary Daniel

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder keeps her awareness of safeguarding up to date and understands what to do if she has a concern about children's welfare. She uses risk assessments well to minimise accidents and help keep children safe. The childminder frequently liaises with other providers children attend and shares information about their development to promote a consistent approach. She regularly monitors children's progress and assesses their stages of development, for instance, to identify where she can support their learning further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder actively promotes children's interests in play, such as to develop their imaginations further. For example, children enjoy climbing in and out of a large cardboard box and say, 'This is our house' or 'Now it's a treasure box'. They cover the box with a sheet of material to hide themselves and shriek with delight as the childminder tries to find them. The childminder has improved how she encourages children's mathematical awareness and supports this successfully through play. For instance, older children recognise numbers of personal significance and say, 'I'm four'. Younger children start to count in sequence. All children become engrossed in filling and emptying different sized containers with water to see if they float or sink. The childminder supports children to start linking sounds with letters well. For example, older children know 'S' is for sunshine and snake and they begin to recognise the letters of their names.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder supports children's good physical health and well-being effectively. For example, children climb, roll and jump at a toddler gym or when visiting a local park. They enjoy jumping and splashing in muddy puddles on their walks with the childminder in local woods. The childminder encourages children's social skills effectively. For instance, children help the childminder cut up their fruit for snack time, count out the pieces carefully and hand these round to their friends. They enjoy meeting with other children at toddler groups. Younger children show great delight when they see their older friends arrive. Children play happily together and recognise the need to share and be kind to others. For example, older children help their younger friends find a special toy.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain good independence and language skills to help prepare them for their move to school. For example, they readily tidy up their toys and put their belongings away when asked. Children express their ideas clearly and say, 'We are making a big, big cake' when stirring water in a large tray. Children gain confidence in their abilities and are motivated and eager to learn through their play. For instance, they are interested in the wild flowers they see on their walks and explore different textures, such as moss.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY419822
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	1131085
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	11 August 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2010 and lives in Shaftesbury, Dorset. She operates all year round from 7.15am to 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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