

Childminder report

Inspection date	6 November 2018
Previous inspection date	7 January 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is good

- The childminder shares information effectively with her co-childminder and assistant and ensures they implement her robust policies and procedures. Everyone understands their roles and responsibilities and provides high standards of care and hygiene.
- Children form very strong emotional bonds with the childminder and her assistant, who are exceptionally caring and attentive. From this secure base they flourish and grow into highly confident and independent individuals.
- Children very confidently explore the highly stimulating environment. They enjoy a wide variety of enjoyable activities and rich experiences. They are extremely enthusiastic and very eager to join in.
- Children behave impeccably. They show high levels of self-control for their age and listen intently to adults and each other. They play together extremely well.
- The childminder carefully observes children's play and uses the information well to assess their progress and plan what they need to learn next. Children make good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder sometimes misses teaching opportunities to help children think creatively and develop their ideas fully, especially when children are initiating their own play.
- On occasions, some group activities do not meet the learning needs, as well as possible, of all the children taking part, especially the younger children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage children consistently to explore, think creatively, and develop their own ideas fully, to maximise their learning
- review activities planned for larger groups of children to ensure that they are appropriately challenging for all those taking part.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder working with her co-childminder and assistant and assessed the quality of care and teaching. The inspector spoke with them and the children at appropriate times.
- The inspector looked at all areas of the home and garden used by the children.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder how she monitors her assistant's practice, the children's development and plans for their learning.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including evidence of the suitability of adults living and working at the childminder's home, qualifications, policies and children's records.
- The inspector took account of parents' views from speaking with a parent and from testimonials written for the inspector.

Inspector

Rachel Edwards

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder ensures her own and her assistant's knowledge of safeguarding is up to date. She knows what to do if she has concerns for a child's welfare. The childminder ensures that the appropriate checks have been done for all adults in the household or working with the children. She makes sure there are always enough suitable and experienced adults present to care for the children. She successfully plans activities to help all children get a good start and to prepare them well for starting school. She speaks with parents every day, writes diaries for the youngest and keeps richly illustrated development records for all the children. Parents speak highly of her very good communication. The childminder has established strong links with other settings that children attend. Practitioners visit to observe children for whom they share the care, so they have a consistent approach to children's care and learning. The childminder identifies areas for development, such as visiting other settings that specialise in outdoor play, to enhance her skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder's infectious enthusiasm and playful approach encourage all the children to participate. They eagerly talk about their experiences of Bonfire Night, as they use paint and glitter to make firework pictures. They use a rich vocabulary with words such as 'sparkling', 'exploding' and 'glittery'. Every day, the childminder reads to the children and makes stories lively and appealing. Older children enthusiastically join in. They suggest what might happen next and learn new words, such as 'cauldron'. The childminder and her assistant develop children's mathematical understanding skilfully. They weave mathematical language into everyday activities so children have plenty of opportunities to count, sort, add and take away. Children benefit from interesting outings, such as to the zoo. These significantly increase their experiences, develop their understanding and expand their vocabulary.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children settle exceptionally well into this happy household. The childminder is very effective in helping children gain a growing understanding of how to keep themselves safe and healthy. Children very enthusiastically help to tidy away toys and know this helps to prevent accidents. They tuck into attractively presented and home-cooked snacks and meals. The childminder encourages children to try many new tastes and textures and they enjoy this experience, discussing what they like and dislike. They play energetically and delight in being 'puffed out'.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress. Babies and toddlers form secure relationships and confidently explore their surroundings. Older children recognise familiar words and begin to link letters with the sounds they represent. Children use their growing mathematical understanding. For example, they use a long piece of plastic to 'measure' the height of their tower. They are gaining the skills they need in readiness for starting nursery or school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	112843
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10063331
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	23
Date of previous inspection	7 January 2016

The childminder registered in 1999. She lives in the village of Laverstoke near Whitchurch in Hampshire. The childminder works with a co-childminder and an assistant when numbers require. She cares for children on Monday to Thursday between 7.30am and 6pm throughout the year. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. She holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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