

Childminder report

Inspection date	29 November 2018
Previous inspection date	6 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		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder works closely with parents and encourages regular communication. She shares up-to-date information and actively encourages parents' involvement in their children's learning and development.
- Children are happy, secure and settled in their environment. They have a wonderful relationship with the childminder and this helps to support their sense of self-esteem, self-confidence and emotional well-being.
- Children eagerly join in with activities and make good progress, from their starting points, in all areas of learning. They are developing important skills to be ready for their next stage of learning.
- The childminder provides a stimulating environment where children enjoy a wide range of indoor and outdoor play activities, and exciting learning experiences.
- The childminder supports children's language and communication skills well. She talks to children continually, repeating new words as they play and asking simple questions to encourage them to speak.
- Sometimes, the childminder misses opportunities to challenge children's thinking further to help them make even better progress.
- Although the childminder works very well with parents overall, to share and meet children's needs, she does not extend this further when children would benefit from extra support or funding to achieve.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider ways of providing further challenge for children to help them make even better progress
- work even more effectively with parents to ensure children receive extra support and opportunity in helping them to achieve.

Inspection activities

- The inspector took account of the views of parents in letters and references seen on the day.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector read a range of documentation, including children's records, the attendance register and suitability documents.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the childminder interacting with the children during activities indoors and outdoors.

Inspector

Rachel Cornish

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder is professional and well organised. She regularly evaluates her practice and identifies areas that she would like to change to maintain her good provision. For example, she has researched and introduced the use of sign language. The childminder plans to undertake training to help implement strategies to aid children's communication further. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is confident in her knowledge of the signs of abuse and knows how to report possible concerns. Clear policies underpin her good practice and these are shared with parents. The childminder maintains a safe and secure home. She is vigilant in her supervision of children and alert to potential risks, such as children putting toys in their mouths. Parents comment positively about the childminder and that they are very pleased with the care their children receive and the learning opportunities she provides for their children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows the children well. She provides activities that she knows will engage them and support their good progress. She uses her ongoing observations of the children to plan activities that expand their learning. The childminder builds on what children already know and can do. An example of this is when she provides tools for children to use during a sensory dough activity to help develop their small muscle skills in preparation for early writing. Outside children enjoy making marks with chalks on the ground. The childminder gets down to children's level and is playful in her interactions, which in turn stimulates their interest further. For example, the childminder repeatedly activates a sound toy and children watch carefully, smiling and laughing at the sounds. From an early age, children show a keen interest in books. They sit on the childminder's lap and listen while she reads, and enjoy exploring hidden pictures within the books.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder has created a welcoming and exciting environment, indoors and outside. She gives the children freedom to explore and discover in their own ways, offering support and guidance at all times. Children are well behaved and display friendly behaviour towards the childminder. The childminder has developed strong attachments with them and demonstrates a kind, caring and respectful manner towards them at all times. The childminder encourages children to be independent and gives them a great deal of choice in what they do throughout the day. For example, children choose the books for the childminder to read and which dish they would like to use at snack times. The childminder plans activities, such as making lamps for Diwali and trying food from different countries, to help children to learn about the world around them.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are keen, enthusiastic learners. Children explore resources independently and have confidence in their own ability. They join in with rhymes and repeat the actions they remember from their favourite songs. Children develop good communication skills, which they use effectively. For example, they respond appropriately to the childminder and repeat words.

Setting details

Unique reference number	131407
Local authority	Southampton
Inspection number	10072361
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	6 January 2016

The childminder registered in 1995. She lives in the Shirley area of Southampton, in Hampshire. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3.

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