

Childminder report

Inspection date	14 March 2019
Previous inspection date	1 July 2015

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

- Children are happy and enjoy the time they spend at the childminder's home. They form secure emotional attachments and develop good relationships with their peers and the childminder. The childminder's kind and caring attitude builds children's confidence and well-being.
- The childminder is highly experienced and committed to her continued professional development. She attends training regularly and uses online courses and research to enhance her knowledge and skills. For instance, after training, she has introduced more natural resources to encourage children's creativity.
- Children have good opportunities to make choices and to lead their own learning. The childminder is responsive to children's interests and follows their lead. She successfully supports children to achieve their next steps in learning during their self-chosen play, and by planning suitably challenging activities.
- The childminder plans regular outings for the children, such as taking them to toddler and childminding groups and nearby parks. She assesses potential risks well and minimises hazards to keep children safe.
- The childminder ensures good communication with parents to enable frequent two-way sharing of information. She also shares information with other settings that children attend. Children benefit from consistent experiences at home, in settings and with the childminder.
- On occasions, the childminder does not support children effectively to explain their ideas, solve problems and develop their understanding. For instance, she does not use questions well enough to extend children's thinking.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use more techniques to support children effectively to explain their ideas, solve problems and develop their understanding, such as using questions well enough to extend children's thinking.

Inspection activities

- The inspector took account of parents' written views and comments.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector sampled documentation, such as children's records and written policies.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the childminder interacting with the children.

Inspector

Rachel Cornish

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder is confident about the procedures to follow should she have safeguarding concerns about a child in her care. Parents provide positive feedback about the care and education their children receive. The childminder encourages parents and children to contribute their ideas to develop the setting. For example, following discussions with children about what they enjoy, she plans activities, such as dried pasta or dough play, that engage them very successfully in their play. Since her last inspection, the childminder has extended the range of resources for babies to investigate when playing in the garden.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder gets to know children very well, clearly identifying their starting points for learning and what they need to learn next. She provides a wide range of resources and activities that are suitable for the children of different ages who attend. For example, children enjoy investigating nuts and bolts. The childminder explains the difference between a nut and a wing nut, and then how they work on a bolt, extending children's critical thinking and mathematical development well. Younger children copy the childminder's actions to put the nuts and bolts together. The childminder provides older children with wooden blocks that have holes to encourage more independent investigation. The childminder supports children's literacy skills well. For instance, children enjoy exploring dried pasta with a range of resources, such as letter shapes, name labels, ladles and spoons. They are keen to identify the letter shapes they find and match them to their name label.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder helps children to become independent in managing their self-care needs. For example, she encourages them to learn the best way to wash their hands and then rinse and dry after. Children respond well and readily help with tasks, such as tidying the toys away before moving on to the next activity. The childminder is a positive role model. She teaches children to be respectful to others and to learn about people who are different from themselves. For instance, children enjoy regular visits to a day care centre to share stories and songs with older people. The childminder provides opportunities for children to enjoy physical exercise. For example, children enthusiastically take part in yoga sessions where they learn balance and coordination.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident, independent and able to solve simple mathematical problems. For example, older children complete puzzles with competence and concentrate well as they persevere to fit the pieces together correctly. Younger children speak clearly and with confidence about their play as they explain what they are doing and engage in imaginative thinking. They practise writing and pen control when using printed worksheets of patterns and their name. Children eagerly join in with activities and make good progress from their starting points. They are prepared well for their future learning and development, and their eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY340713
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	10062638
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	11
Date of previous inspection	1 July 2015

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in West Moors, Dorset. She operates from 7.30am to 5.45pm Monday to Friday, all year round. The childminder holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 6. She receives funding for the provision of free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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