

Childminder report

Inspection date: 5 November 2019

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children are wonderfully content in the childminder's warm and welcoming home. The highly stimulating environment allows children to select resources independently, inspiring them to make choices in their play and learning. Children form excellent attachments with the childminder and other children. For instance, children show excitement to arrive at the setting and are very eager to join in with their friends' play. The caring childminder is an excellent role model and children's behaviour is exceptionally good. Children receive continuous praise for their efforts and feel empowered to try new ideas, which significantly enhances their confidence and self-esteem.

The extremely passionate childminder demonstrates an exceptionally strong knowledge of how children learn. She is very confident in her approach to teaching and learning. For instance, the childminder takes the lead from children and uses her own expertise to build on what children already know and can do. Children thrive as they immerse themselves in a wealth of activities and experiences which are on offer both indoors and outdoors. For example, children show high levels of curiosity as they explore coloured rice. They develop their physical skills extremely well as they create a range of marks and patterns with the rice. Children show significant perseverance and determination as they transfer the rice into different-sized containers. The experienced childminder plays alongside children and provides them with a range of resources to enable them to extend their learning further. She uses highly effective engagement and interactions to support children to think for themselves.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder shows remarkable dedication to provide the highest quality of care and learning to children and their families. She builds outstanding relationships with parents, establishing a positive two-way flow of communication. The childminder gathers detailed information about children when they first start at the setting. She actively encourages parents to be involved in their child's learning by sharing ongoing information about their progress and development. Parents comment on the excellent progress their children have made since starting with the childminder.
- Children are extremely enthusiastic learners. They busily explore the stimulating environment and resources provided to them to support their creativity and imaginative play fully. Children immerse themselves in imaginative play as they recreate past experiences. For example, children relish becoming builders to fix the plastic bench. They work together to try out different tools. They use the screwdriver to tighten the screws on the bench and use the goggles and ear defenders to protect them from the 'builder's dust'.

- Children show an exceptional interest in books and stories. The childminder ignites children's imagination and supports children's communication skills when reading stories extremely well. She offers new vocabulary to support children's understanding and gives them opportunities to recall significant parts of the story. The childminder engages children in meaningful conversations where they develop a diverse knowledge and a strong awareness of different people and communities even further. For example, during the story they notice a picture of a man in a wheelchair, which they discuss with the childminder, enabling a deeper level of understanding.
- The highly driven childminder meets regularly with other childminders to share ideas and expertise. She seeks opportunities to further develop her skills. For example, she attends local story time sessions to reflect and improve on her own professional development. The childminder continually strives for excellence across all areas of her provision. She currently has plans to develop her outdoor area even further to encourage more opportunities for children to explore and investigate.
- Children work collaboratively to share knowledge and information with each other and communicate their ideas clearly with the childminder. Children are extremely engaged as they develop their muscle strength for early writing through craft activities. They show high levels of concentration as they use crinkly scissors to cut pieces of shiny paper for their firework pictures. The childminder offers a vast range of resources for children to choose and pick from. Children show delight as they successfully peel the backing off the stickers before using them.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder demonstrates a very strong knowledge of the signs and symptoms that may suggest a child is at risk of harm. She is extremely confident in her role to safeguard children. She implements robust policies and procedures to ensure children's care and safety remains the highest priority. The childminder completes training to refresh her safeguarding knowledge to include wider safeguarding issues, for example, radicalisation. She completes and shares an extensive range of policies and procedures with parents to ensure children's safety and welfare are a constant high priority.

Setting details

Unique reference number	142731
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	10125457
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	17 September 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2000 and lives in Yeovil, Somerset. She operates her service all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder is registered to provide early education for children aged two, three and four years. She holds qualified teacher status.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Terri Breakwell

Inspection activities

- The childminder's interactions were observed as children played indoors and outdoors, and the impact on children's learning was assessed by the inspector.
- At appropriate times during the inspection the inspector spoke with the childminder and children.
- A joint observation was carried out by the inspector and the childminder.
- Written feedback from parents was taken into account by the inspector.
- A range of documentation was sampled by the inspector, including children's development records, suitability checks and policies and procedures, such as safeguarding and risk assessment.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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