

Childminder report

Inspection date: 16 December 2019

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children nurture and feed animals and birds. On the day of the inspection they enthusiastically poured bird food into feeders to hang on trees. Children used their observational skills as they watched carefully to see if they could spot birds. They talked about species that they recognised approaching the feeder. Children displayed creative flair as they designed moving Father Christmas decorations. They practised their early writing skills and coloured in the arms and legs of the model. The childminder showed them how to carefully tilt pots of glitter. They released small amounts to make the most of resources available to them. Occasionally, during activities, the childminder gives over-complicated verbal instructions and this is confusing for children.

The childminder reminds children to be respectful of people around them and they consistently display good manners. Children are confident, spirited individuals. It is evident that they feel safe in the environment. They show this when they independently delve into boxes to find chosen toys. Children are assertive and they speak about what they like to do with siblings at home.

The childminder is knowledgeable about children's specific interests. She successfully plans activities that she knows children will enjoy and that will help them move on in their learning. For instance, local police officers visit and teach children how to keep themselves safe when they are out in the local community.

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

- The childminder establishes secure links with practitioners at local childcare settings who care for the same children. She communicates with each key person regularly. They discuss children's progress in each area of learning. The childminder adopts a consistent approach to children's care and children respond positively to the strong routine.
- Children demonstrate that they are self-sufficient in many aspects of their personal development. They know how to limit the spread of germs. For instance, they automatically wash their hands after visiting the bathroom. They address many of their own toileting needs, although the childminder is always available if children need any extra support.
- Lately, there have been fewer opportunities for the childminder to develop her professional skills. She is continuing to seek other methods of learning in order to develop her early years expertise. Nevertheless, she does share tips for good practice with other childminders and she reads some new information online.
- The childminder provides good support for children to experiment with space, shape and measure. For example, she organised a cooking activity and provided plenty of jugs and bowls. Children carefully transferred liquids and ingredients

between different containers. Children guessed how much water they would need to add to make a thick icing for biscuits. They are eager to experiment. Children practised their speech as they spontaneously commented on the consistency of the icing during the stirring process.

- Parents' opinions are valuable to the childminder. She invites them to contribute to regular evaluations of her practice. Parents share positive feedback about children's experiences with the childminder. Many parents comment on the good standard of care she offers children.
- The childminder helps children to cultivate an interest in books. Children huddle up together as they listen to stories. The childminder introduces props to add interest to stories. Children focus well and they practise speech skills when they make suggestions about how the story will progress.
- Since the last inspection, the childminder has reviewed her provision of technology. She has introduced more interesting toys. Children experiment and check what will happen when they press buttons. For example, they use a till to charge friends for food at the supermarket.
- The childminder plans visits to local attractions to extend children's learning. She helps children recall activities they have previously taken part in. For example, children reviewed favourite pictures in their own journals. They pointed to colourful pictures and freely talked about dens they had made with older friends in a local woodland clearing.
- The childminder does generally communicate very well with children, although, on occasion, she gives children a number of directions in quick succession. She does not check when she does this that they fully understand what they are doing.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder recognises that the information children share with her is important. She understands how to record details of any safeguarding disclosures made by children. The childminder also communicates details of her safeguarding policies and procedures with parents. She makes them aware of her responsibility to share information with other professionals if she has any concerns about children's safety. The childminder teaches children how to respond in an emergency situation, such as if the smoke alarms are activated. Children know to hold hands with friends and follow the childminder outside and away from her home until it is safe to return.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- increase access to professional development opportunities, to advance expertise

and to raise the quality of the early years provision even higher

- provide clear instructions at all times during activities to further promote children's understanding.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY265174
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10073233
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	3 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Date of previous inspection	16 May 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2003 and lives in Whiteley, Hampshire. She works Monday and Tuesday, between 7.30am and 6pm. She provides care before and after school on a Wednesday and Thursday. The childminder operates throughout the year.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Julie Bruce

Inspection activities

- The childminder described how she uses different areas of her home when she is working with children.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder about children's daily routines.
- Children talked to the inspector about toys they enjoy playing with at the childminder's house.
- The inspector and the childminder reviewed the success of a planned activity.
- The inspector and the childminder discussed progress children have made since they first started attending her provision.

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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