

Childminder report

Inspection date: 15 January 2020

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	Outstanding
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children enjoy their time with the childminder. She aims to provide an inclusive family environment for all. She believes every child is capable of reaching their full potential and provides flexible sessions to meet the individual needs of each family. The childminder ensures she has a good range of resources that help children to learn and develop well. She adapts her environment accordingly. For example, she ensures those children who are learning to walk have enough space to move around safely. This helps to build their physical skills in an area with minimal risk.

Children enjoy mathematical puzzles. They quickly learn how to manipulate the pieces so that they fit, developing good problem-solving skills. The childminder helps children to recognise numbers from 0 to 10. She encourages them to name particular shapes, such as 'triangle', 'square', 'circle' and 'star'. Children enjoy learning about colours and can find these in the environment, such as a 'purple car' and a 'yellow cardigan'. They confidently name colours as they hammer plastic nails into the holes. Children's behaviour is good. They are aware of the childminder's house rules and adhere to them well. Children sit down on chairs to prevent themselves from falling.

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

- The childminder has formed effective partnerships with parents. She works closely with them to ensure children make good progress. The childminder uses an online assessment system. Parents upload videos and photographs of their children engaged in activities at home. This helps the childminder to plan for their ever-changing interests. Parents speak positively of the care and education the childminder provides. They complete written questionnaires to share their views of the childminder's provision.
- Overall, the childminder supports children's communication well. She uses her words and sentences effectively, providing a good narrative to children's play. Occasionally, the childminder misses opportunities to extend children's thinking skills to develop their understanding even further.
- The childminder has made some changes to her provision since her last inspection. She has developed the garden area to ensure all children receive opportunities to play outside. Children build on their physical skills well. The childminder also takes children to visit local parks in the area. However, opportunities for children to learn about the community, and other cultures and traditions, to help enhance their understanding of the world, are not consistent.
- Care practices are strong. The childminder ensures children have clean hands and noses at all times. She talks to children about placing their hand over their mouth when they cough and reminds them frequently to use the bathroom to help them manage their personal needs independently.

- Children are confident and independent. The childminder has arranged her environment to enable the children to choose resources and equipment themselves. They enjoy finding and investigating musical instruments, particularly the keyboard. They learn how to press buttons to make sounds and bounce joyfully to the music.
- The childminder devises activities based on children's interests. For instance, children explore the properties of coloured ice. They feel its texture and watch how it melts into water. They discover how food colouring makes prints on paper as it slowly disperses from the ice. Children develop good creative skills.
- Children benefit from the training courses that the childminder attends. They use equipment that the childminder provides to organise and develop their ideas effectively. For example, children enjoy positioning and lining up toys to help them think logically.
- The childminder works well with other early years professionals. She liaises with other childminders to share new ideas and has good communication with health visitors. For instance, the childminder provides valuable information about children's development. This helps to ensure they receive the extra support they may need.
- Children have formed close attachments to the childminder. They seek her out to enjoy plenty of hugs and cuddles. The childminder knows children well and is alert to when they may be sick or tired, and responds to their individual needs well.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder carries out frequent fire drills to ensure children become familiar with the evacuation procedures should an emergency occur. Children know how to climb on and off indoor bicycles safely to help protect their welfare. The childminder is alert to any extreme views or behaviours. She is aware if a child shows signs of being at risk of exploitation. She has attended child protection training and she is aware of the relevant procedures to take should a child's safety be at risk. The childminder monitors children's absences and pre-existing injuries to ensure there are no safeguarding issues.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- maximise opportunities to extend children's thinking skills to further enhance their understanding and communication
- broaden children's experiences to help them learn about their own community and those within the wider world.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY417824
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	10125716
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	13 April 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2010 and lives in Plymouth, Devon. The childminder offers care Monday to Thursday from 7.40am to 6pm, all year round. The childminder receives early education funding for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Joanne Steward

Inspection activities

- The childminder took the inspector on a learning walk and discussed the activities she provides for children.
- The inspector spoke to parents and read their written statements to gain their views of the childminder's provision.
- A joint observation was carried out with the childminder to ascertain the quality of teaching.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and the children at appropriate times during the day.
- A range of online and paper documents were looked at, including the childminder's policies, and suitability and training certificates.

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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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