

Childminder report

Inspection date: 12 February 2020

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

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children quickly learn that they are unique and loved in this extremely nurturing and child-focused environment. Children's emotional well-being is of a high priority to the childminder. Even children who, at first, are a little shy, soon flourish into confident and resilient individuals. They share out pretend slices of cake, kindly involving everyone in their game. Young children happily hold conversations with visitors. The combination of innovative resources and the childminder's high-quality teaching means that children are consistently challenged to develop and master new skills. Every interest children display is skilfully turned into an opportunity to learn. Children delight as they choose props to use when singing their favourite songs, and they beam when the childminder praises them.

Children develop considerable respect for others and know how important it is to be kind. They have opportunities to reflect on their behaviour and see the positive impact of their actions. Children learn excellent skills in independence, and the childminder balances this well with helping children to assess risks, make informed choices and keep themselves safe. For example, young children concentrate and persevere as they carefully slice and peel orange and banana in preparation for snack time. They also then help to clear up by sweeping the floor and drying their dishes and cutlery.

Children's behaviour is exceptional due to the childminder's natural ability to model a caring and attentive approach to others. Children's behaviour and attitudes are further supported through incredibly close bonds between the childminder and parents. From the very start, the childminder works closely with parents to ensure that she is building on what children already know and can do. As a result, children make excellent and consistent progress.

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

- The childminder's assessments of children are meticulous and enable her to set precise targets for their learning. She shares this pertinent information, with parents and with staff from the other settings children attend, to ensure a consistent approach is maintained. Children demonstrate the skills they need for nursery or school well in advance of the time that they move on.
- The childminder organises a curriculum that is highly stimulating and ambitious. For example, she made erupting volcanoes with the children, who were fascinated to have a go themselves. The childminder also ensures that young children are well prepared for later learning. For instance, she supports children to use a variety of tools in flour and water with the intention of building the strength in their hands and fingers ready for writing.
- Children show great respect for one another and demonstrate a mature

understanding of how to interact. They use language exceptionally well to explain themselves. The childminder uses innovative methods to aid children's communication. For example, children thoroughly enjoy making bubble pictures, learning to blow and not suck through the straw. The childminder encourages them to talk about these and they become engrossed as they describe what is happening.

- Children enjoy excellent daily opportunities that support them in developing mathematical skills. For example, young children count money as they pretend to shop. Children can confidently count, recognise shapes and compare different sizes in their play.
- Children experience the outdoors and the local community in many ways, from playgroups and spending time in the woods and on the common. Their sense of wonder and curiosity is ignited through the enthusiasm of the childminder, who places high value on children's interactions with nature and the world around them.
- The childminder has outstanding relationships with parents. Parents are provided with regular and detailed information about their children. Their views and comments are used to inform next steps for children's learning. Parents' comments reflect their high opinions and appreciation for the childminder. They feel fully included in their children's care and learning and describe her as part of their family.
- The childminder is continually reflective. She actively seeks training and takes advice from other professionals to improve her already excellent practice. She shares information with other providers where appropriate, such as the school and playgroup, which provides consistency in children's care and learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder regularly updates her knowledge of child protection issues and the wider aspects of safeguarding. She recognises the signs and symptoms that may indicate a child who is at risk. The childminder understands when it is appropriate to monitor a child, provide a family with support or when she needs to make an immediate referral. She ensures the ongoing suitability of all persons who live in the household.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY231217
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	10065841
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 to 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	11
Date of previous inspection	2 November 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2002. She lives in Wembdon, Bridgwater. The childminder provides care each weekday throughout the year.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Katherine Lamb

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed interactions and teaching between the children and the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies, children's records and qualification certificates.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through their written feedback.

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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