

Childminder report

Inspection date:

16 March 2020

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 flourish and thrive under the exceptional care and attention of the extremely experienced and highly skilled childminder. Children demonstrate they feel very content and secure within her care. The childminder has exceedingly high expectations of children and works tirelessly to ensure they have the very best experiences. Children are extremely well behaved. The childminder uses play to help children learn about, and develop, the social skills they need for successful friendships. The childminder is an excellent role model. She talks to children about their feelings, and her warm interactions and loving care inspire children to behave kindly towards one another. Children rapidly learn how their words and actions may affect others. This helps them to be empathetic towards one another and to work through any discord swiftly.

Children demonstrate excellent attitudes to learning. They are curious, eager and confident as they explore the exciting environment. They freely choose their preferred toys and resources and know exactly where to find them. Children enjoy dressing up, create wonderful, imaginative scenarios and giggle together as their play unfolds. Children are in no way dependent on the childminder to direct their play. They possess the skills to create their own fun for themselves. The childminder bases her excellent curriculum for children's learning on a relaxed and fun-filled environment. She is extremely clear about what she knows each child can achieve.

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

- The childminder's care practices are exemplary. She ensures that children follow meticulous hygiene practices given the current national pandemic. She ensures hands are washed in between activities and certainly after toileting needs. Children speak confidently about germs and the national campaign to 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it'. Children are knowledgeable about the risks of sharing germs. For example, after blowing a musical instrument, children knew to give it to the childminder so it could be thoroughly cleaned before being played again.
- Children's vocabulary is impressive and extremely well developed. The childminder continually helps children to build on this. For example, children joyfully sing and dance to familiar rhymes and songs. They expertly use their proficient language to help them negotiate with each other during play. Older children can confidently identify the letters that make up their names and are adept at linking letter sounds to the letter names and shapes.
- Children's early literacy skills are supported exceedingly well. They independently choose from a selection of fiction and non-fiction books to aid their learning. For instance, children delight in reading stories to each other and supporting each other as they share a book. They carefully turn the pages and

confidently 'read' the story by looking at the pictures. Children confidently link their established knowledge to what they see, such as identifying a 'ball of knitting'. The childminder skilfully supports them to understand it is called a 'ball of wool' and challenges them to identify how it can be used. The children, triumphant in their knowledge, declare, 'To knit a jumper - see it's a ball of knitting!' Children are very well prepared for the next stage of their learning.

- The childminder develops superb relationships with parents from the onset of care. Parents are actively involved in recognising their children's starting points during the highly effective settling-in procedures. The childminder positively empowers parents to share ongoing details about their children's abilities and achievements at home. This creates a very consistent approach to children's care and learning. Parents comment that the childminder offers a 'nurturing' and 'excellent' home environment. They say that they feel appreciated and commend the childminder for her excellent communication with them. They value that their children 'always come home happy' and attribute this to the dedicated, passionate childminder.
- This especially dedicated childminder is very experienced and continually reflects on her practice to ensure the service she provides is of the highest quality. She understands the importance of continually enriching her already excellent teaching skills. For instance, the childminder completes relevant training and carries out personal research to ensure that she supports children to make the best progress possible. Recent training has helped her to focus on how she can help children's emotional health and well-being. In addition, the childminder builds and maintains strong partnerships, with other settings children attend, to provide consistency of care and learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an extensive knowledge of how to keep children safe. She has a comprehensive range of safeguarding policies and procedures. The childminder uses these policies to underpin her knowledge and practice and to share valuable information with parents. She has a secure understanding of what might be a cause for concern and the procedures she needs to follow to protect children. Additional training on wider safeguarding issues, including child sexual exploitation and the 'Prevent' duty, enables her to further safeguard children. The childminder's risk assessments of her home and outings are thorough. She actively promotes children's safety and well-being throughout the day.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY227388
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10136348
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	25 February 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder initially registered in 1987 and re-registered in 2003. She lives in the Bursledon area of Southampton in Hampshire. The childminder is open Monday to Friday, 7.30am to 5pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a degree in psychology and an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3. She is registered to receive the government funding for free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sarah Denman

Inspection activities

- Ofsted is aware of the challenges that Covid-19 is currently posing to those we inspect. During this visit, the inspector took into consideration the impact of any measures being taken to slow the spread of Coronavirus by the childminder. This has included the effect these measures have had on the current attendance of the children.
- The childminder showed the inspector around the areas of her home used for childcare. She talked about the different activities she provides to support children's learning and development.
- The inspector observed activities and assessed the quality and impact of teaching on the children's learning. She spoke with the childminder and the children at appropriate times during the inspection. The inspector took account of parents' views through their written comments.
- During a joint observation, the childminder and the inspector evaluated and discussed the quality of education seen.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation, including children's learning folders, training certificates and the suitability of all adults living in the household.

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

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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