

Childminder report

Inspection date:

7 October 2021

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 in this nurturing home-from-home environment. The experienced and passionate childminder works exceptionally closely with parents when children first start, to get to know children and support their specific needs. She has adapted these arrangements during the COVID-19 pandemic to help babies and children settle extremely well.

Children persevere when they encounter difficulties. For example, toddlers closely follow the childminder's instructions on how to squirt paint into pots. They keep trying until their pots are filled with their chosen colours. Children paint with enthusiasm, are highly engaged and focus for extended periods of time. Babies relish the feel of large chalks and are fascinated by the marks they make. Toddlers are highly confident in social situations and show they feel very safe as they joyfully talk about what they have painted with visitors.

The childminder is an excellent model for children's behaviour. She is calm and speaks to children with genuine respect. Children are especially kind and very polite. For example, without prompting, younger children say 'please may I have more water?' at mealtimes. Children show an excellent understanding as to why certain behaviours are not acceptable. They know not to run indoors because of the danger to themselves and others, and that they 'might get hurt'. Children respect each other greatly and wait their turn patiently for the toy that another child may have. They show very high levels of skill in avoiding conflict with each other.

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

- Children and babies show a real zest for learning. The childminder knows exactly what she wants children to learn and plans an exceptionally broad curriculum. Through highly effective interactions with the childminder, children make excellent progress. The childminder takes every opportunity to develop children's characters and use their interests to extend learning. For example, a child's keen interest in vehicles led to the childminder taking the children to see real vehicles and ride on a bus.
- The childminder is inspirational in her enthusiasm to seek continuous improvement to her qualifications and practice. She completes a multitude of training opportunities and reads current research articles, using any new knowledge gained to help secure the very best outcomes for children.
- Children learn from the earliest age to value diversity. The childminder plans highly effective opportunities for children to learn how they are unique. Children talk about their own families and make links to their families when stories are read to them. The childminder takes children and babies to local toddler groups

and she provides a wealth of books that reflect an appreciation of diversity.

- The childminder is highly effective in supporting children's well-being and good health. Babies receive an abundance of cuddles and reassurance from the loving and caring childminder, which helps to support their growing self-esteem. The childminder helps parents to support their child's good health at home through, for example, advising them and sending links about healthy eating habits and oral health.
- Children enjoy abundant opportunities to be physically active. For instance, children develop their core strength as they fill up wheelbarrows with objects, then work collaboratively to move the wheelbarrows around the garden. Children have trips out to extend their learning even further, such as when they visit local farms.
- The childminder uses every opportunity to develop children's language and communication skills. She reads poems and stories with great intonation and expression, explaining new words to help increase children's vocabulary and understanding. Babies watch the childminder's face intently as she talks. Toddlers speak with increasing fluency.
- Children develop impressive levels of independence and display an excellent can-do attitude. For example, toddlers pour their own drinks carefully into glass tumblers. They find and put on their own boots when they wish to go outside.
- The childminder establishes superb partnerships with parents. She offers home visits and guides parents very successfully to support their child's learning at home. Parents have high praise for the information they receive, such as detailed progress reports, videos and photos.
- The childminder has established high-quality flexible links with other settings. For example, both pre-school providers and the childminder can access each others' online learning journals to enhance children's already significant progress.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a secure understanding of child protection. She ensures that safeguarding and the welfare of children are at the forefront of her practice. The childminder fully understands the signs that may indicate a child is at risk of harm and is confident of the procedures to follow to make timely referrals. She completes relevant training to refresh her sound knowledge of child protection procedures. The childminder provides a safe and secure environment for children to play. She keeps her paediatric first-aid qualification up to date so that she can act swiftly if a child becomes unwell or has an accident.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY290999
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	10125567
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	0 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	10 April 2013

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2004. She lives in Blandford Forum, Dorset. The childminder operates from 8am until 5pm from Monday to Friday day, all year round. She holds a relevant qualification at level 5. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years old.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Petra Morgan

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in her evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder and inspector carried out a learning walk together and discussed the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children throughout the inspection and evaluated the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed some relevant documentation, including suitability checks for all household members and the childminder's paediatric first-aid certificate.
- The inspector took account of parents' views through their spoken and written comments.

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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