

Childminder report

Inspection date: 5 May 2022

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	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children flourish and are extremely happy and content in the childminder's care. They form warm and strong attachments to her. The childminder prioritises children's well-being and supports their emotional readiness to play and learn. She gets down to children's level, maintains eye contact and speaks slowly when interacting with them. This has an extremely positive impact on their understanding and self-esteem. Children benefit from respectful friendships. The childminder is a brilliant role model for children and instils positive values in them. Children have excellent manners and cooperate, share and take turns with each other. The childminder has very clear expectations for behaviour, which she communicates exceptionally clearly and effectively to children. Consequently, children's behaviour is exemplary, and they have superb listening and concentration skills.

The childminder provides an inspiring and stimulating environment. It is exceptionally well resourced with a wide range of materials that stimulate children's curiosity. Children are inquisitive and very motivated to learn. The childminder has recently received an accreditation for her strong focus on well-being and contentment. She is highly reflective and gives careful consideration to her environment, to provide a calm and serene space so that children can freely explore and readily concentrate on things that interest them. The childminder is passionate about promoting learning through nature. For example, she has an allotment that children enjoy visiting regularly, and she teaches children about sustainability. This allows children to experience the natural world around them and to embrace the simple pleasures of day-to-day routines.

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

- The childminder is well qualified and has an excellent knowledge of how young children learn. She uses this to plan rich, highly beneficial and purposeful activities that children enjoy participating in. For example, children relish adding lavender and rosemary to play dough. They are inspired to discuss what it smells like and why it attracts bumblebees in the natural world.
- The childminder knows the children extremely well and adapts her high-quality teaching to meet their individual needs. She meticulously monitors children's progress and plans appropriate and challenging next steps for them. Consequently, all children make excellent progress in enjoyable ways.
- The childminder successfully inspires children to develop a love of books. She reads stories with expression. Children are excited and eager to listen, delighting in the story. Children confidently join in with known parts of stories and knowledgeably make links to their prior learning. The childminder thoughtfully sets out a wide range of interesting books throughout her environment which

are cleverly linked to the different activities and resources. This sparks children's curiosity further and they learn new things linked to their play.

- The childminder expertly supports children's communication and language skills. Children excitedly sing songs and happily join in with actions and rhymes, showing their knowledge and skills. The childminder asks children carefully worded questions during their play, which develops their critical-thinking skills and ensures that they remain highly engaged. She skilfully supports children's communication in a range of ways. For example, she uses early signing to support children's understanding and emerging language and encourages children to join in. The childminder extends children's vocabulary as they play. She offers them words such as 'excavate' and clearly explains what this means.
- The childminder fosters children's confidence and independence excellently. She encourages them to share their opinions and to make their own choices. The childminder is highly successful in helping children to develop a range of ways to learn to manage their own feelings and emotions.
- Children develop a keen sense of responsibility. They learn to respect resources and their environment. They are keen to help clean and tidy up. For example, children delight in taking turns to use a handheld Hoover and a dustpan and brush to clean up the play dough.
- Daily routines are very well established and clearly understood by the children. They skilfully and safely learn to use knives to prepare their own snack. Children learn about the importance of good hygiene and staying healthy in highly relevant and age-appropriate ways.
- The childminder establishes excellent partnerships with parents and other childcare providers. Parents report that they are very pleased with the genuine nurturing care that the childminder provides. They value how she supports children to develop character and comment on how well children thrive in her care. They are grateful for the childminder's insightful help and advice, which enables them to support their child's learning at home.
- The childminder is highly ambitious and is dedicated to continually improving. She completes a wide range of training and embeds the knowledge she gains from this into her practice, to further benefit children's learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a robust understanding of how to keep children safe and is confident with the procedures to follow if she has concerns about children's welfare. She prioritises professional development and has extensive knowledge of wider safeguarding issues. Rigorous risk assessments ensure that any potential hazards are identified and minimised quickly and effectively. For example, the childminder considers children's individual needs and adapts her environment accordingly by removing china teapots before younger children play. Children learn to take risks safely. The childminder teaches children about how to stay safe within the community and reinforces the potential dangers of talking to strangers.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2521708
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	10204357
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 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2019 and lives in Okehampton, Devon. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday. The childminder has a childcare and education qualification at level 6. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Amy Fedrick

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about her intentions for children's learning.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how she ensures that they are safe and suitable.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the children.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.

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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Textphone: 0161 618 8524
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