

Childminder report

Inspection date: 29 June 2022

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

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children settle quickly with the friendly childminder and form strong attachments with her. They respond positively to her gentle, calm approach. She recognises children's individual interests and uses these well to help children enjoy their play. For example, children become absorbed pushing and prodding the play dough and tell a visitor they are making an apple. They like to snuggle up with the childminder to listen to a favourite interactive animal story. They learn the names of the animals and tell the childminder about the blue, purple and red colours in the pictures.

Children enjoy going on local outings with the childminder, such as to play parks or for nature walks to find some blackberries. The childminder is keen to support children's learning. They are keen to have a go and try hard at blowing bubbles. They watch with fascination as the bubbles float through the air and have great fun trying to catch them and pop them with their hands. Children use their imaginations well in their play. They move the small-world toy animals around a water-park activity centre, chatting happily to themselves about their game. Children interact well with their friends overall.

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

- The childminder is keen to develop her practice and has made improvements since the last inspection. She has considered further ways to support children's communication and language. For example, she gives children time to respond to her questions. She uses more descriptive words, such as shimmery and scratchy when reading children stories to extend their vocabulary. In addition, she has implemented a more accurate way of recording children's attendance.
- Children develop their physical skills well. They enjoy running freely in the garden and like rocking up and down on the see saw. Younger children know to sit on their bottoms to go down the garden steps safely. They observe how their older friends walk carefully along a wooden bench seat outdoors and work out how to do this themselves. However, the childminder sometimes misses opportunities to help children with assessing potential risks, such as when climbing and balancing in the garden, to keep themselves and others as safe as possible.
- Children enjoy a healthy range of snacks, and the childminder talks with them about foods that help them stay fit and well. Children know the daily routines of washing hands before eating, to help prevent the spread of infection.
- The childminder promotes children's good behaviour well. She provides a calm, consistent approach and gives children clear explanations about any unwanted behaviour. She also use positive reinforcement well and praises children often to help them develop good self-esteem.

- Children show an interest in understanding about the world. For example, they listen intently as the childminder explains how solar lights work. They find out how to release toy animals frozen in ice as it melts. They hold a shell to their ear and say, 'We can hear the sea'.
- The childminder provides a range of activities for children based on their interests. Younger children pretend to bathe their baby doll and show delight splashing in the water tray. Older children begin to count confidently and group matching objects, such as colourful interlocking shapes. However, the childminder does not always give sufficient focus to supporting and challenging children's existing skills within their play. For example, to build on children's mathematical awareness consistently well.
- Parents provide positive comments about the childminder. They say their children love going to her and she keeps them well informed about their care and learning activities.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has completed safeguarding training and understands her responsibility to protect children's welfare. She is aware of signs that may indicate potential concerns and knows the procedures to follow to seek further advice. The childminder continues to assess her home for safety issues and puts appropriate prevention in place to minimise accidents. For example, she keeps her front door locked and the garden is securely enclosed. The childminder liaises well with parents about how to develop children's confidence and support their social skills following the COVID-19 pandemic.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- continue to develop planning to give more focus to activities that support and challenge children's individual learning needs consistently well
- consider further ways to support children's understanding of risk and how to keep themselves and others safe from harm.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY558800
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	10208824
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	5
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	16 September 2021

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2018. She lives in Dorchester, Dorset. The childminder offers care Monday to Friday, from 7.30am until 6pm, during term time only. She receives funding to provide early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Mary Daniel

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed the curriculum with the childminder and how this is delivered to support children's learning.
- The inspector observed children's interactions in play indoors and outdoors, and discussed their progress with the childminder.
- The inspector took into account the spoken views of parents.
- The inspector and the childminder completed a joint observation and discussed the quality of teaching.
- The inspector viewed a sample of documentation, including accident records and first-aid 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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