

Childminder report

Inspection date:

9 September 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

Personal development

Good

Leadership and management

Good

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children enjoy attending this welcoming, home-from-home setting. They evidently feel comfortable and safe with the friendly childminder and enjoy plenty of meaningful interactions with her. They happily join in with activities with her and confidently seek cuddles when they feel the need for support. The childminder knows children well. She ensures that she plans and provides suitable activities and learning opportunities to help each of them make good progress whatever their individual starting points. She provides a rich learning environment and regularly adds new resources to meet children's needs and inspire their learning.

Children enjoy taking part in, and exploring, new activities. They focus well as they investigate the texture of coloured rice and artificial grass. They roll tractors over the grass and identify farm animals with support from the childminder, who explains the sounds the animals make. Children play happily together and willingly share resources. They are helpful and take responsibility for tasks. For example, they eagerly use brushes to help the childminder clear up the rice on the floor.

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

- The childminder makes effective use of observation and assessment to track each child's progress. She uses what she knows about each child and their specific learning needs to provide a varied range of resources and activities which help them make good progress. She monitors children's learning overall and has noticed that, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, children have not had many opportunities to go on trips and learn about nature. Therefore, she has ensured that she takes children out frequently to find out about the local community and the natural world.
- The childminder continually encourages and motivates children to learn. She praises their achievements and builds their self-esteem. For example, she notices when a child perseveres with an activity and tells them, 'Good trying!' The childminder uses effective teaching methods to support children to learn in all areas. However, she does not consistently give them time to think and respond when she asks them questions. She also sometimes misses opportunities to thread mathematics throughout children's learning.
- Children are very settled. They move around with great confidence, decide what to do and then concentrate well on their chosen activity. For example, they enjoy using the role-play kitchen and spend a long period playing with it. Children are well-behaved. They willingly follow instructions and have no disagreements over toys. They show care and respect for one another, handing toys to others as they play.
- The childminder promotes healthy lifestyles. She provides nutritious snacks and home-cooked meals to ensure that children eat healthily while at her setting.

She also teaches children good hygiene practice, supporting them to wash their hands before eating and after using the potty.

- The childminder provides high levels of support for children's communication skills. She has identified delays in some children's language development and provides tailored activities, such as games, to help them listen and speak. The childminder uses effective methods to support those children who are learning English as an additional language or who are bilingual. She ensures that they have opportunities to use their home language at her setting and to enjoy rhymes and songs in their home language.
- The childminder provides high levels of support for parents as well as their children. She offers advice, practical help and parenting tips, which they really appreciate. Parents comment on how her childminding is intimate and supportive and state what a blessing it is to have an 'awesome' childminder who helps their children make such good progress.
- The childminder frequently reflects on her provision and makes changes to improve experiences for children. She has carried out extensive work in her garden to provide an exciting environment for children. She also reflects on what skills she needs to develop and completes relevant training so that she can support children further.
- The childminder is skilled at working with parents and adapting her practice to meet children's individual needs. However, she is still in the process of finding the most effective strategies to help children who have difficulty in settling to sleep independently.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a thorough understanding of safeguarding. She recognises the possible signs that a child is at risk of harm and knows what to do if she has concerns. She keeps her knowledge up to date and shares it with parents. For example, she shares information with them about online safety to protect children when using the internet at home. The childminder has thorough procedures in place to protect children. For example, there is a sign displayed reminding parents and visitors that they must not use mobile phones on the premises.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- develop teaching further, with particular regard to giving children more time to think and respond and consistently threading mathematics throughout their learning
- consider further strategies to support children who find it difficult to settle to sleep independently.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY457633
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	10236053
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 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	12
Date of previous inspection	17 November 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2013. She lives in Exeter, Devon. She operates her service from Monday to Friday, all year round. The childminder is in receipt of funding to provide free early education to two-, three- and four-year-old children. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Catherine Sample

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 childminder.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about their intentions for children's learning.
- Children communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having 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.

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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E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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