

Childminder report

Inspection date: 10 January 2023

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

The childminder provides a welcoming, homely atmosphere, where children separate confidently from their parents. Children show they feel extremely safe and secure as they listen with eager anticipation to the childminder as she describes what she has planned for them. Parents comment that the childminder provides a 'varied and stimulating environment' for their children and praise the childminder for her exceptional level of care.

All children thrive here. The childminder plans enticing activities that engage the children and extend their knowledge. The children are deeply engaged and concentrate for long periods in their play. The childminder has created a highly ambitious curriculum for all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities. She identifies any gaps in learning with precision and ensures that every child is supported to meet and exceed their milestones.

Children enjoy exceptional opportunities to explore the world around them. For example, the childminder organises weekly outings to Moors Valley Park and a wide range of local areas of interest, including beaches. Children recall their excursions with glee. They have excellent self-esteem and are confident to talk about their rich experiences.

The childminder promotes exemplary behaviour. Children have impeccable manners and behave very well as they know the rules and what is expected of them. Children say 'please', 'thank you' and cover their mouths when they cough, as they are learning not to spread germs which they know are 'invisible'.

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

- The childminder and her assistant are excellent role models as they encourage children to be ever more independent. For example, when children spill rice from their role play onto the floor, the childminder suggests methods of clearing it up. She offers the children brushes and pans, demonstrating how to use them. Children therefore learn how to do things for themselves and are building excellent skills for future life.
- The childminder meticulously plans activities and organises resources but is flexible in allowing children to lead the way. The childminder makes learning effortless and fun, and children watch in wonder as a new world is revealed to them. Children are highly motivated to join in with an experiment at snack time. The childminder shows them how Chinese pancakes curl up when boiling water is added. She deftly checks children's understanding of being safe around boiling water and steam, and children recall that 'it can burn'.
- Children show excellent physical skills as they negotiate the different levels in a

child-led obstacle course. They learn to take safe risks and build on their core strength as they confidently pull themselves up and move across equipment.

- The childminder provides resources, such as tweezers, pencils and scissors to build strength in their smaller muscles. Children show they are assured in making marks in different ways. During a restaurant role play, children take orders from 'customers,' and their friends use different utensils to cook the meals in the kitchen.
- The childminder excels at introducing new vocabulary during play. She skilfully checks understanding and uses themed stories to embed learning throughout the day. For example, she reads a story about Chinese New Year and asks the children questions about the Chinese food they tasted at snack time. They recall the new words they have learned with pride, such as 'bamboo' and 'pagoda,' and the childminder relates this to words that are on the page. They learn new vocabulary and understand that print carries meaning.
- Children develop a real love of books. Children choose a book eagerly each week to take home and share with their families. This supports parents with home learning and helps to build a lifelong love of reading.
- The childminder is passionate about her work. She is highly skilled and experienced, and she supports her assistant to build on her experience. Together, they work as a strong team and provide a highly consistent approach to their support for children's learning.
- Partnerships with parents are very strong and highly effective. Parents speak highly of the information the childminder provides on their children's learning and development. They feel supported and know that their children are receiving a first-rate start in life.
- The childminder has an impressive knowledge of child development. She is highly reflective of her own practice and continues to improve on current practice. She is passionate about professional development and the impact her journey has made on her teaching methods.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder understands how to recognise children who may be at risk of harm. She knows the signs and symptoms of abuse and keeps her knowledge up to date on child protection issues. She recognises her responsibilities and the procedures to follow should she have a concern about a child's safety. She has comprehensive policies in place covering a wide range of safeguarding issues. She teaches children road safety and to be alert when talking to strangers. The childminder has regular discussions with her assistant to ensure that they share any safeguarding concerns.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY462127
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	10236168
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 11
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	13
Date of previous inspection	25 January 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2013. She lives in Ferndown, Dorset. The childminder holds qualified teacher status and works with an assistant. The childminder provides care on weekdays, except Fridays, from 7.30am to 6pm, throughout most of the year. The childminder receives funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Fiona Whitwell

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 provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure they are safe and suitable.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to the childminder's assistant at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the children.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder's assistant and the children.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.

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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