

Childminder report

Inspection date:

5 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

Children thrive in the care of this warm, caring and very experienced childminder. They arrive excited to learn, saying goodbye to their parents with ease.

The children are very happy and are highly motivated to learn. They show a desire to persevere. The childminder uses her expert knowledge of how children learn to precisely assess when to intervene in children's play and when to stand back and observe. For example, babies try to post rings on a stacking toy, but are unable to place the ring on the post successfully. With gentle support from the childminder, they try again and achieve their task repeatedly. They beam and clap with pride.

The childminder provides effectively targeted activities, which captivate children. They engage deeply for extended periods of time. Children hone their fine motor skills as they use the writing tablets. They delight in drawing 'curly tails', experimenting with different movements.

The childminder places a high emphasis on children's well-being. She makes each child a book showing family members, which they love to share with their friends. This gives them a strong sense of self. She recognises the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on children, some of whom were upset by car travel, which they had not previously experienced. The childminder brings a car seat into the playroom so children can familiarise themselves with it and feel more secure when they travel.

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

- The childminder makes excellent use of accurate assessments to plan the next steps in children's learning. She builds on what children can do well and offers meaningful activities that develop skills very successfully. For example, children learn to use scissors, progressing from two-handed to single-handed use. They practise cutting play dough before moving on to paper. This ensures a secure foundation before moving on to the next stage of development.
- Children's speech and communication is consistently developed by the childminder. She is an excellent role model, using clear speech directly linked to her actions. This helps children make sense of her words. For example, babies learn they have selected 'purple' paint. They proudly repeat the word over and over, encouraged by the childminder's praise.
- The childminder successfully embeds strong personal hygiene. Children develop exceptional skills from a young age. Children under three years of age use the adult toilet independently. They tell the childminder they need to wipe their noses. Babies express they are 'dirty' and need a nappy change.
- The childminder fosters an exceptionally keen love of books and stories in the children. Two-year-old children remember all the words of their favourite stories.

They 'read' the whole book to themselves, reciting the words out loud. The childminder seizes opportunities to develop vocabulary as children closely observe pictures. As children name the animals they see, the childminder skilfully brings incorrectly pronounced words into discussion so that children develop accuracy.

- Children learn about the wider community through purposeful visits to local places of interest. They visit the supermarket to look at the range of fruit and vegetables, then visit the shop at the farm to see them displayed in a different environment. This helps children to deepen their knowledge of vegetables and where they come from. Children regularly take part in play sessions with other groups of children, preparing them socially for the next stage in their education.
- The childminder maximises opportunities for active physical play. Children jump at the top of the soft play steps with confidence. Babies use the ramp to slide on their bottoms and tummies. Children and babies negotiate steps in the garden competently. Crawling babies show high levels of confidence in their physical abilities. They excitedly chase their older friends, twisting and turning with speed and skill.
- The childminder has strong relationships with parents, who welcome her advice and support. They comment that she gives them 'total peace of mind', caring for their children with a highly individualised approach. Parents love that the childminder embraces their children's unique personalities. They value the daily feedback and photos of their children's day.
- The childminder keeps up to date with her learning through training and research. She is an active member of a local childminder network. The childminder uses her extensive knowledge to lead well-received training events for other childminders. In this way, she uses her expertise to improve outcomes for a wider group of children in her community.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder understands her responsibility to keep children safe. She has a secure knowledge of signs of abuse and neglect and has procedures in place to record any ongoing concerns. The childminder knows how to make a referral if she has concerns about a child. She keeps her knowledge up to date through training and discussions with other professionals. The childminder places high priority on aiming to ensure children's safety and security. She uses an effective risk assessment process to identify hazards and makes changes to her play space if required. The childminder is aware of the hazards posed on outings and makes good use of pre-visits to help ensure children are kept safe away from the home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY439429
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10264191
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 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	7 June 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011. She lives in Farnborough, Hampshire. The childminder has a childcare and education qualification at level 3. She works Monday to Friday, from 7am to 6pm, for most of the year.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jacqui Szrejder

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 it is safe and suitable.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises their early years provision, including the aims and rationale for their early years curriculum.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a painting activity with the childminder.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector, expressed in writing.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of relevant 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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