

Childminder report

Inspection date: 24 February 2023

The quality and standards of early years provision	This inspection	Met
	Previous inspection	Good

Summary of key findings

This provision meets requirements

- The childminder is highly experienced with a particular expertise in forest school activities. She has a clear ethos for her setting, using the natural world to encourage children's curiosity about the world around them. She understands how to implement a broad curriculum and has clear processes in place for tracking children's development. She plans for a wide variety of activities, such as drumming outdoors or using pictures to identify different plants.
- The childminder understands the need to work closely in partnership with parents. She has a detailed welcome pack for parents outlining clear expectations about the care she will provide and her policies. The childminder gains parents' views and works alongside them to support their children in areas, such as toilet training. She provides daily diaries for each child, which are used effectively as a two-way communication between herself and parents.
- The childminder takes keeping up to date with her training very seriously. She regularly attends courses to enhance her knowledge and keeps a detailed record of training she has attended. For example, she has recently completed a number of courses linked to supporting children's mental health.
- The childminder is aware of the need to evaluate the service she provides. She has systems in place to identify gaps in her provision for children. For example, she has previously identified a need to give children access to different ways of recording their ideas, including through the supervised use of a camera. She gains the opinions of parents as part of her evaluation process.
- The childminder knows how to work with other agencies to support children's development and well-being. She is confident in knowing how to make referrals if needed to the appropriate agency. The childminder works alongside other settings to ensure a shared approach to teaching children and addressing their next steps.
- The childminder has a very good awareness of how to keep children safe. She understands the signs and symptoms of abuse. She has recently attended additional training on how to access early help for children and their families. She carries out regular risk assessments of her property, including minimising the risks associated with children coming into contact with her pet tortoise. The childminder has an additional forest school first-aid certificate, demonstrating her commitment to keeping children as safe as possible in an outdoor learning environment.
- The childminder has a clear understanding of behaviour management. She is calm and thoughtful with a positive attitude to encouraging children to learn. She plans for ways in which she can develop children's independence and make them ready for school. The childminder's enthusiasm shines through in discussions about how she works with young children.

There were no children in the early years age range present when this inspection took place. The findings in this report are based on evidence gathered from discussions with those who care for the children and an inspection of the premises, equipment and relevant documentation. Where there are no early years children present, no judgement is made on the quality of the early years provision as there is no reliable evidence on which to assess its impact on children. The report states whether the provider continues to meet the requirements of registration.

Setting details

Unique reference number	162038
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	10263890
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 0
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	0
Date of previous inspection	16 May 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2001. She lives in Street, Somerset. The childminder holds a childcare and forest school qualification at level 3. The childminder is available for breakfast and after-school care term time only and for all day care in the school holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Leanne Edge

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider 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 discussed how the childminder organises their early years provision, including the aims and rationale for their early years foundation stage curriculum.
- 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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