

Childminder report

Inspection date: 18 April 2023

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education	Outstanding
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Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
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Personal development	Outstanding
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Leadership and management	Outstanding
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children flourish in the care of this kind, nurturing childminder. They settle incredibly quickly and immerse themselves in the high-quality learning opportunities the childminder provides through her thoughtfully planned curriculum. Children show they are emotionally safe and secure. They continually laugh, giggle and sing to themselves as they play.

Children are extremely confident and social. Their behaviour is exemplary, and they show positive attitudes towards their learning. For example, children ask when it is time to brush their teeth and when is it story time. The childminder shows children how much she values them through her consistent use of praise and encouragement. She is an excellent role model, and children mimic her caring nature. For instance, older children say 'well done, you did it yourself' to the younger ones as they climb down from the chairs without support. Children show they are learning how to understand their own emotions and the feelings of others.

Children absolutely love snack time. The childminder creates a calm atmosphere where children engage in meaningful conversations and learn how to make healthy food choices. The childminder takes this opportunity to encourage children to learn something new or practise a skill they have recently learned. They show pure joy as the childminder supports them to safely use an apple corer to make 'magic eyes' in their apples.

The childminder has high expectations for all children. She skilfully enables children of all ages to explore and investigate freely alongside her excellent teaching to build and extend each child's knowledge and skills. Children delight in using a large cardboard box in their play. The childminder uses this opportunity to help some children strengthen their core stability and balance as they climb in and out of it. She introduces new words into other children's vocabulary as they play shops with the box. All children make excellent progress from their starting points.

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

- The childminder expertly adapts her teaching based on each child's age, stage of development and their interests. She knows children exceptionally well and uses continual assessment to identify any gaps in their learning. These gaps are rapidly addressed. Support for children with special educational needs and disabilities is superb. The childminder works closely with parents and professionals to ensure children have the correct support and experiences to achieve their full potential. This ensures all children make timely progress, ready for school.
- The childminder is especially talented at helping children learn about

themselves, their families and their community in an age-appropriate and sensitive way. She uses positive language, posters, books and flags to celebrate children's backgrounds and cultures. As a result, children are learning about the wider world and how to respect and value each other.

- Children develop a real love of books. They freely choose from an extensive range of books and sit and share them with each other and the childminder. They confidently re-tell familiar stories and enjoy looking at factual books for a purpose. For example, they look at life-cycle books and talk to each other about what they see in the pictures. This helps to enhance their understanding of the animals they have been learning about.
- The childminder works closely with other providers and is a key figure in the local childminding community. She is continually looking for ways to improve her already excellent practice and shares her learning and expertise with others through an online platform. She has strong relationships with local schools, childminders and early years settings and regularly meets with other providers to discuss children's progress. She follows robust confidentiality procedures to make sure she only shares relevant information. This helps children experience continuity in their learning.
- Children's language and communication is exceptional. The childminder engages children in high-quality and meaningful conversations and encourages them to express themselves and use language for a variety of purposes. She sensitively reminds younger children to use their words to ask for help. She extends older children's vocabulary as she asks them about what they are doing through her skilful questioning.
- Parents are incredibly positive about the childminder. They talk about the 'love, time, attention and patience' the childminder gives children and how much they value her expert knowledge. The childminder goes above and beyond to work with families to gain an insight into children's lives. She expertly weaves this into her curriculum. This enables all children to have the best possible start to their education journey.
- The childminder enjoys the time and quality interactions she has with children. She is committed to her role and is incredibly ambitious for all children. She values each child's uniqueness and nurtures their character. She continually laughs and smiles with children, and they show delight when she joins their play. For example, younger children show her what they look like as they try on different sunglasses. They beam with pride as the childminder tells them how lovely they look. These wonderful moments demonstrate the respect children have for the childminder and how happy they are in her care.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a thorough understanding of the signs and symptoms that may indicate a child is at risk of abuse. She knows what to do if she has a concern about a child's welfare. The childminder considers potential risks in her home and ensures she keeps children safe. She checks sleeping children regularly and, in

addition, uses a video monitor. The childminder is extremely well organised and prepared in the event of an accident. She wears a wrist band with emergency details and has an evacuation bag prepared should she need to leave the house with children in an emergency.

Setting details

Unique reference number	104014
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	10280709
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	2 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	18
Date of previous inspection	25 September 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2001 and lives in Honiton, Devon. She operates all year round from 7.00am to 5.30pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, except for family holidays and bank holidays. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education for three- and four-year-old children. She holds an early years qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Mikaela Jauncey

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 inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises with the childminder.
- The childminder joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about her curriculum and what she wants children to learn.
- The inspector viewed a range of documents, including the childminder's data protection and confidentiality agreements for parents and other providers.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder throughout the inspection and discussed how the curriculum is planned and implemented and how children's progress is monitored.
- The inspector spoke to children and joined their play.
- Parents spoke to the inspector and left written comments and feedback which the inspector considered.

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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