

Childminder report

Inspection date: 20 April 2023

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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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 inspires children to learn in his fun and homely environment. Children concentrate for long periods of time on a wide variety of activities. They benefit from the childminder's excellent teaching and his energetic warm character. Children learn and use an exceptional range of early mathematical language during their activities. For example, they look for a 'massive rhinoceros' and discuss that 'rhinos' are too heavy for their parents to pick up. These conversations result in plenty of laughter. Children develop a wide knowledge about the natural world. Children learn many prepositions as they look 'underneath', 'on top' and 'a long way away' for different animals. Children excitedly count how many animals they have, then work out how many are still left to hunt for. Young children develop excellent numeracy skills.

Children are very kind to each other. Older children help younger children to find animals and learn the names for new colours. Children enjoy plenty of community opportunities which help them learn how to keep safe. For instance, they learn about how to behave safely near water when they feed ducks. They discuss road safety during local walks. Children are exceptionally polite. The childminder celebrates their good manners and behaviour to encourage this even further.

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

- The childminder teaches children about inspirational people from many different backgrounds. He reads books about historical characters to children. For example, children learn about the first woman to fly around the earth and athletes who break Olympic records. The childminder discusses how children have different customs at home, such as different ways of eating. Children explore which types of housing people live in around the world and how blind people read using Braille. All these things give children excellent opportunities to learn about similarities and differences between themselves and others.
- The childminder helps children develop a wide range of skills to support them with their next stage of learning. For example, very young children confidently chop up their foods at snack time and put on their coats for outside play. Children learn to manage and understand their emotions. They have exceptionally close bonds with the childminder and feel confident discussing their thoughts. They have consistently positive attitudes to their learning.
- The childminder plans a well-sequenced curriculum, making sure children's interests are at the heart of his plans. For example, he purchased lots of resources to explore tractors, knowing they fascinate and motivate one of the children to learn. The childminder enriches learning, for instance with a variety of farm trips to see lambs and piglets. Children are animated as they discuss a recent trip to the zoo while looking at photos of their special day. Very young

children recall how lizards use 'camouflage' to hide in the zoo.

- Children have fun opportunities to make marks and build the muscles in their upper bodies. For instance, they delight as they 'paint' the walls outside with large strokes using brushes and water. Children discuss the marks they make, such as drawing a 'cheek'. The childminder expertly extends children's vocabulary of body parts. He uses mark-making activities to develop early writing skills to the highest levels.
- Children play imaginatively with building blocks. The childminder asks purposeful questions to develop children's creativity. Children are encouraged to solve problems and think critically as they play. For instance, a child is challenged to build a door, attach it to a frame and find a truck for his zoo. The childminder is exceptionally patient, supporting children to play imaginatively and create their own zoo.
- Parents report the childminder is exceptionally skilled with behaviour management. He gets to know children as individuals, making sure resources are available for all children's interests. Parents of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities speak highly of the childminder. They report he goes 'above and beyond' to accommodate all the needs of their children. They say he provides a real home from home where children are free to create, craft, play or have down time.
- The childminder refreshes his knowledge of statutory requirements regularly. He reads all relevant statutory updates and information provided by the local authority. He reflects on the service he offers during regular discussions with parents and by gaining their feedback on progress reports. The childminder uses this information to adapt his activities. He makes sure the needs of individual children and their interests are at the heart of his curriculum.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has robust systems in place to keep children safe. He has an excellent understanding of the many indicators that could suggest a child is at risk of harm. The childminder uses a variety of online resources, professional publications, and local authority updates to help keep his safeguarding knowledge up to date. The childminder confidently describes his reporting procedure should any child be at risk. He has formed excellent communication links with parents, schools and the local authority. The childminder ensures effective communication is maintained to discuss children's welfare, learning and development and keep them safe.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY449263
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10263998
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	13
Date of previous inspection	18 May 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2012. He lives in Old Basing, Basingstoke, Hampshire. The childminder works Monday to Friday from 7.45am to 6pm term time only. The childminder receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Charlotte Foster

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 setting.
- The childminder talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want children to learn.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector assessed the childminder's understanding of how to keep children safe.
- Children spoke to 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.

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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