

Childminder report

Inspection date: 11 March 2020

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 and her assistant create an excellent learning environment for children. Their attention to detail is exemplary in their planning and organisation of resources. Children show an excellent sense of belonging. On arrival, children eagerly look for and find their name on individual wooden dolls. With pride, they place their dolls in the miniature house, to show that they are here. Children feel very important and take keen responsibility for doing things. For instance, they elect themselves as 'register monitor' and put the dolls away when their friends go home.

Children show immense interest as they eagerly explore and choose what they want to play with. They examine the nature table with wonder and talk about the treasures they have collected. Children check their clipboards and identify pictures of different types of spring flowers that they see in the woods. They look at photographs with fascination and happily recall their many exciting activities. Children thoroughly enjoy their visits with the childminder to see older people residing in a care home. They develop heart-warming relationships as they draw pictures and read books together. Children have very rich imaginations and love to role play with their friends. For instance, they chatter about 'emergencies' and calling '999' on their phones, showing an excellent understanding of being safe and what they have learned.

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

- The childminder and her assistant have excellent early years teaching skills. They take every opportunity to extend and enhance each learning opportunity. For example, as children play with dolls, they learn how babies are carried in different ways by people across the world. With great success, the childminder encourages children's early understanding of differences in people and places. Children eagerly practise their Spanish words and numbers, which they learn each week. They are highly confident and continuously develop excellent skills for future learning.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent. Parents provide extensive and extremely positive examples of the wonderful childcare and support. In particular, they value the learning bags that children bring home to share with their family. These cover many topics, including having a new baby, bereavement, potty training, starting school and mathematical development. The childminder and parents work extremely well together to enrich children's emotional development. In addition, the childminder has very strong partnerships with other settings, to fully support continuity of care for children.
- The childminder and her assistant constantly reflect and evaluate on what and how children are learning. To enhance their practice further, the childminder

researches and adopts different types of teaching philosophies. The childminder is highly successful in her aim to provide a 'calm and harmonious' atmosphere, where children show delight in being together. Children show gratitude as they talk about things that they are lucky to have or experience. Their notes on the 'Thankful Tree' include examples of family members, presents and food.

- Children's behaviour is exemplary. They have an excellent understanding of the routines and are very eager to participate. For example, after lunch, they rush to brush their teeth and use a sand timer to indicate how long they need to brush their teeth for. Children recall that the firepit in the woods is hot and that they 'need to sit still' to keep themselves safe. To further support children's well-being, the childminder has introduced mindfulness activities. Children choose an activity card and ask to do the breathing exercises. They concentrate deeply as they feel their tummies going in and out, while they count their breaths.
- The childminder takes inspiration from others to extend children's wonderful experiences. She is a mentor to other providers and shares her skills and expertise to benefit wider groups of children. For example, the childminder promotes interactive storytelling, which successfully encourages children to use their imaginations and create their own stories. Children become even more engrossed in their imaginary games. The childminder and her assistant have created a podcast on the internet of their outstanding provision, to inspire others.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder and her assistant have a thorough and confident knowledge of safeguarding children procedures. They undertake regular training to update and refresh their awareness of different types of abuse, to the highest level. The childminder shares information from courses with parents, to support their further understanding in child protection. For example, she provided parents with information about online safety for children and young people. The childminder vigilantly updates her safeguarding folder with any changes in contact numbers for relevant child protection agencies. Children's safety is of the utmost importance to the childminder and her assistant. Together, they teach children to have an exemplary understanding about taking risks and how to be careful.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY362841
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	10125642
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 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	42
Date of previous inspection	3 March 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Helston. She employs two assistants. Care is available each weekday from 7am until 6pm, all year round, except for the childminder's holidays. The childminder receives early education funding to provide free places for children aged two, three and four years. She holds early years professional status.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Julie Wright

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder, assistant and children in their activities to assess the quality of teaching and learning.
- The childminder explained her aims and principles to the inspector during the learning walk.
- A joint observation was carried out by the childminder and the inspector.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, assistant and children during the inspection.
- Written feedback from parents was read, and required documentation checked by 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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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