

I would like to support the application for Venture Kitley Farm for the Pearson Early Years Award. I visited this centre a few months ago when I was carrying out some assessment for one of their pupils. I was impressed, not just by the facilities available, but also by the knowledge and expertise of the staff. In particular I noted that the staff enabled the children to problem-solve independently without jumping in too quickly. This was working well to support the children's independent learning skills and their ability to tolerate 'mild stress' whilst working and playing in order to learn to self-regulate whilst experiencing some kind of challenge in their play. This insightful approach enables the children to discover new skills for themselves whilst the adults are providing guidance when needed. The children are empowered and gain a sense of agency, whilst at the same time having so much fun in this natural, outdoor environment. What a pleasure it was to visit. I hope I can find a reason to visit them again some time soon.

Best wishes

Fiona

Fiona Dawson

Educational Psychologist