

Childminder report

Inspection date: 13 September 2019

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

The provision is good

The experienced and dedicated childminder cares for children in a calm and welcoming environment. Children attending are happy and settled. They enjoy a wide variety of high-quality toys and resources. The childminder knows the children well and uses her expert knowledge to identify the skills they need to develop next in their learning. She plans a broad range of interesting and engaging learning opportunities, considering each child's interests. Children develop good mathematical skills and are increasingly aware of the world around them. They understand that sunflowers need water and sunlight to grow. They display great pride in using measuring tools to compare and record the growth of their flowers. They count independently to 10 and above. They talk about whether their flowers have grown 'more' or 'less' than those of their peers. The childminder interacts positively with children during their play and asks questions to extend their knowledge. However, on occasions, she does not always make the most of every opportunity for children to develop their own ideas and think critically throughout activities. The childminder is approachable and encourages families to share regular feedback. She uses this information well to identify improvements and to maintain the quality of her childcare. However, on occasions, she does not always use this information well enough to build on her already good teaching, and learning opportunities for children.

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

- The childminder has a clear and ambitious vision for her setting. She has high expectations for what all children can achieve. Overall, she provides high-quality care and education. She has a solid understanding of her key roles and responsibilities.
- Each child's previous experience and starting points are used by the childminder to plan activities. She considers what it is children need to learn and provides them with the skills they need to succeed in future learning. For example, she encourages children to be independent. They learn to put on their shoes and help to prepare for lunchtime.
- Children are keen and confident learners. They maintain good concentration during their play and take pride in their achievements. The childminder provides children with a choice of activities that motivate them to play, learn and explore. However, on occasions, she does not always encourage children's critical thinking skills to support them in developing more of their own ideas.
- The childminder supports children's reading, speaking and listening skills well. Children develop a love for reading from an early age and enjoy handling books. The childminder encourages children to work together and communicate during simple tasks. They delight in searching for leaves and natural objects in the outdoors. Children listen intently while the childminder enthusiastically talks

about hedgehogs. They develop their creative skills as they make their own hedgehog pictures.

- Children learn to be kind and respectful. The childminder helps them to celebrate their differences. She uses successful strategies to manage children's behaviour. She sets clear rules and helps them to understand expectations from an early age. As a result, children's behaviour is consistently good.
- The childminder regularly reflects on the quality of her setting and seeks the views of parents and children. However, she does not always use this information to enhance the already good teaching and learning opportunities for children.
- The childminder teaches children different ways of keeping themselves safe. For example, she talks to them about their recent outing. Children think about how they stayed safe while out walking. They remember that they used a zebra crossing to stop and look when crossing the road.
- The curriculum builds on what children know and can do. The childminder skilfully introduces new learning concepts to children during activities. For example, she talks about the ways in which seahorses move and how they are unique fish. In turn, children are well prepared for their next stage of learning, including school.
- Partnership working is strong. The childminder works hard to build positive relationships with families. She exchanges information about children's progress and interests with parents and other professionals, including schools.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder implements robust policies and procedures. She attends regular safeguarding training updates. This supports her to identify possible signs of child abuse or neglect. The childminder also has a good understanding of wider safeguarding issues. For example, she knows how to recognise that a child may be at risk of extreme ideas and views. The childminder understands her responsibility to accurately record and swiftly report concerns. This helps to protect children from harm.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To further improve the quality of the early years provision, the provider should:

- give children even more opportunities to think critically during their play and develop their own ideas
- make best use of self-evaluation to enhance the already good teaching and learning opportunities for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	258803
Local authority	Dudley
Inspection number	10069289
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	22 July 2014

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2001 and lives in Brierley Hill, Dudley. She operates from 8am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holiday's and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years childcare qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Dale Ramsey

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas used for childminding and held discussions with the childminder at an appropriate time.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching indoors and outside and assessed the impact this has on children's progress.
- The inspector and childminder jointly evaluated the quality of teaching during a planned activity.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of household members and qualifications of the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to children and took account of the views of parents through written evidence provided.

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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