

Childminder report

Inspection date: 16 January 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	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive in the very engaging and stimulating yet homely learning environment. The extensive range of activities provided support children to become fully engaged in meaningful play and learning throughout the day. Children take pleasure in moving freely between the learning spaces, and they frequently make independent choices about how to spend their time. The learning environment has been thoughtfully designed to support children's independence. For example, coat pegs and towel hooks are low down, and many resources are stored in accessible containers. The childminder skilfully supports children's play by offering prompts and suggestions to extend their thinking. Children are given plenty of time to become fully absorbed in exploratory play. For example, cornflour is available for children to access and investigate when they choose. Children show high levels of concentration and motivation as they investigate its texture and pour it between containers. The childminder takes children on regular visits to enhance their learning. She makes excellent use of the natural environment in the nearby park, as well as visiting galleries, farms and age-appropriate groups. Waterproof clothing enables children to go out in all weathers. The childminder has very high expectations of children's behaviour and consistently models this in her respectful interactions with them. Children are extremely positive in their responses to the childminder and eagerly involve her in their play.

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

- There are many opportunities for children to develop their independence and learn to manage simple tasks for themselves. For example, they serve their own breakfast and learn to hang up and put on their own coats and shoes. The childminder's positive praise and warm encouragement boost children's self-confidence as they make choices about their play and learning.
- The very flexible routine is adapted in response to children's needs. Children often request stories and select books for themselves from the inviting display. The childminder reads in an engaging way. She uses questions and comments to fully involve children in the story. Children visibly enjoy daily opportunities to sing songs and explore musical instruments.
- The childminder is highly skilled at supporting early language development. She consistently responds to children's verbal and non-verbal interactions, using facial expressions, eye contact and verbal feedback. The childminder re-phrases sentences and models the correct pronunciation of single words.
- The childminder gets to know the children very well. She makes detailed observations of their behaviours and interests, both to support her relationships with them and to ensure she can plan challenging and exciting learning activities. For example, the childminder learns about a new favourite television programme so that she can talk with the children about their interests.

- The childminder monitors children's learning and progress very closely to ensure she covers all areas of learning. She sharply focuses planning for individual learning to support children to make very good progress. The childminder and parents regularly exchange information about the children's experiences, interests and development. This enables parents to further support children's learning at home.
- Children are very well prepared for the next stage in their education. The extensive range of experiences provided support them to build their knowledge and confidence in a range of situations. Children learn about number and mathematical concepts through real experiences. For example, they count fruit at snack time and work out how to fit a tray into the washing-up bowl as they clean painting tools. The exceptional range of resources and materials available ensure that very young children's handling skills develop rapidly.
- The childminder is passionate about offering a high-quality service which meets the needs of children and their families. All aspects of the provision are thoughtfully planned, and the learning environment is frequently adapted to meet the changing needs and interests of the children. The childminder continues to develop her early years practice through online research and training, and by connecting with a network of early years professionals.
- Parents are extremely happy with the quality of care and education their children receive. They particularly value the warm relationships their children have with the childminder, and the very broad variety of experiences she offers them. They feel very well communicated with about their children's learning and development, and comment on how well the childminder supports them as parents. They describe the setting as a 'home from home'.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is highly conscientious about children's safety and welfare. She has an excellent understanding of the possible signs and symptoms of abuse to look for. The childminder knows the processes she must follow if she is concerned about the safety of a child. She has accessed further training to increase her knowledge of wider safeguarding issues such as the 'Prevent' duty. Thorough policies and procedures support her to ensure children are kept safe. All policies are shared with parents. The learning environment is clean and very well maintained. The childminder ensures risks are minimised both within her home and during visits out.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY549786
Local authority	Coventry
Inspection number	10111299
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2017 and lives in Coventry. She operates Monday to Thursday, from 8am until 5pm, during term time. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Abi Ellis

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector around the childminding premises and talked with her about how she plans her provision.
- The inspector observed and assessed the quality of teaching while children played indoors.
- The inspector and the childminder reflected together on a planned activity.
- Relevant documents, including training, suitability of adults living in the household, and children's assessment records, were reviewed by the inspector.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- Parents' written views were taken into consideration.

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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