

Childminder report

Inspection date: 11 February 2020

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 childminder is well qualified and recognises the importance of children learning through play. Good settling-in procedures support children to feel secure when they first begin to attend. Children demonstrate a strong sense of belonging. They form close relationships with the childminder, which helps them to feel safe and secure. The childminder provides a homely and stimulating environment where children can play with a range of resources that support their development. Children independently access resources and lead their own play. They enthusiastically make marks with crayons and show the childminder their creations. Children have a clear understanding of the childminder's high expectations for their behaviour. As a result, they behave kindly towards one another and take turns. Children demonstrate an understanding of size and shape and learn to recognise numbers, such as on cars and trucks. They concentrate well as they manoeuvre vehicles up and down and around the track. The childminder joins in with their play and engages them in meaningful conversations. There are age-appropriate storybooks that children may choose to read at any time. The childminder takes children to places of interest within the community. They attend toddler groups, local parks, sensory play activities and visit the library. This supports children's social skills and enables them to develop an understanding and respect for those who are different to them. The childminder works with other professionals to keep up to date with changes in childcare requirements and to keep abreast of training opportunities.

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

- The childminder provides a calm and relaxing atmosphere for children to play and learn in. Children are busy and engaged. They explore their environment with enthusiasm and enjoy their time with the childminder. She offers them lots of praise. Children are proud of their successes, which promotes their high self-esteem and good behaviour.
- The childminder has a sound understanding of the curriculum. She organises a good range of interesting play activities which children enjoy. The childminder uses her observations of each child to assess their development. However, on occasion, she does not use her knowledge of children's individual needs to plan precisely enough for children's next steps in learning.
- The childminder shares books with children every day. This helps her to increase their vocabulary. Children have their favourite books. For example, they enjoy hearing about the characters from 'The Gruffalo'. The childminder continually engages children in conversation, which helps to develop their communication and language skills. However, sometimes, the childminder does not ensure that quieter children have sufficient time to think through and respond to her questions.

- The childminder has high expectations for children's personal development and consistently promotes their independence skills. Children develop high levels of confidence in meeting their personal needs. For example, younger children are keen to feed themselves at mealtimes, and older children enthusiastically manage their self-care routines. The childminder provides nutritious snacks and meals and supports parents in providing healthy packed lunches.
- Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder works closely with parents to find out information about children's care needs and interests before children start attending the setting. She promotes a continuous two-way flow of information with parents to help support their children's learning at home. Parents make positive comments about the childminder. They comment on the wide range of learning experiences the childminder provides for their children.
- The childminder is experienced and organises her childcare service well. She implements her policies and procedures to provide a safe and secure environment for children. The childminder reflects on her practice. She considers what works well and what improvements to make. She seeks the views of parents and children to help to maintain good standards and drive further improvements.
- The childminder has kept her statutory training up to date. She has attended various training sessions to make sure children are kept safe. She works with other childminders in the local area to share ideas and good practice. The childminder has good links with the local school and other settings children attend to ensure she provides continuity of care and a complementary approach to their learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder understands her responsibilities in relation to child protection issues very well. She is aware of the signs that could indicate a child is at risk of harm. She knows how to report any child welfare concerns to the relevant professionals. The childminder has broadened her understanding of wider safeguarding issues, such as protecting children from extreme views and behaviours. She supervises children closely and ensures activities and outings are risk assessed to help minimise any hazards to children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen the use of observations and assessments and use the information to sharply focus planning on what children need to learn next
- provide quieter children with the time that they need to think through and respond to questions.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY432794
Local authority	Sandwell
Inspection number	10074888
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	12
Date of previous inspection	5 May 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Rowley Regis, West Midlands. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 6. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jacqueline Coomer

Inspection activities

- The inspector and the childminder completed a learning walk across all areas of the setting to understand how the early years provision and the curriculum are organised.
- A joint evaluation of an activity was carried out by the inspector and the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and spoke to children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of the childminder's documents, including evidence of suitability and training.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback 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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