

Childminder report

Inspection date: 24 February 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

Children feel extremely safe and secure as the experienced childminder always provides a warm welcome. They have a strong attachment and bond with her. Children benefit from being provided with an exceptional range of exciting, stimulating opportunities that promote their curiosity and thinking skills. For example, young children investigate a rotary dial telephone, exploring how the dial moves. Children look at a mobile phone and consider how this is different to telephones from the past. Children visit a charity shop to buy new resources for the setting. This helps them to understand how to care for the environment by buying toys that are no longer needed by someone else.

Children benefit significantly from the high-quality interactions the childminder provides and the high expectations she has. They access resources independently and have time to explore before she intervenes at appropriate points to extend their learning. Children thrive in an exciting, colourful learning environment that has been well thought out. Activities are planned following their interests and the childminder makes thoughtful considerations about how she can meet their next steps.

Children's behaviour is exemplary. Young children share resources of interest with each other. For example, they pass pencils and paper to their peers and watch in delight as their friends begin to mark make. Older children are encouraged by the childminder to manage conflict resolution themselves.

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

- The childminder ensures she has an excellent knowledge of children's experiences from home when they start at the setting. She sensitively speaks to parents to increase her understanding, and plans to broaden children's experiences at every opportunity. The childminder visits a number of playgroups in the local area. She takes children to visit a railway station to see the trains coming past and then follows this up with building train tracks at the setting. For Chinese New Year, children visit the library to find books to support their learning. They enjoy trying new foods such as noodles and using the internet safely to watch a Chinese dragon dance.
- The childminder provides an excellent array of opportunities for children to develop their independence skills from a young age. They collect their bag of belongings when the childminder says it is time for their nappy to be changed. They know after their personal care needs have been attended to that they must wash their hands.
- The childminder is highly skilled in developing children's early speech and language. She encourages young children to communicate using basic sign

language, as well as introducing new words to widen their vocabulary. The childminder praises children as they repeat the words she introduces. Children listen intently to 'Dinosaur Roar' and smile as the childminder makes different noises for the dinosaur. Later, children enthusiastically use musical instruments to make sounds as the childminder sings their favourite songs and rhymes.

- Children show consistently high levels of motivation in their learning. Young children remain engaged in activities for sustained periods of time for their age. They show interest in exploring resources independently after using these for adult-led tasks. For example, children explore putting pieces of pasta into bottles and show curiosity in investigating how to get them out. The childminder provides different shapes of pasta and children explore how some pasta shapes fall out of the bottles easily, but others get stuck. This supports the development of children's early mathematical skills.
- Since her last inspection, the childminder has completed an extensive range of training to enhance her knowledge across all seven areas of the curriculum. She considers previous learning relevant to specific children, for example, how to support children with attachment difficulties. The childminder has been able to provide highly effective support to families who need additional support. She identifies the impact improvements she has made to her provision have had on the children's learning and development. She has developed precise plans about improving her outdoor learning environment to suit the needs of the children she is currently caring for. Where children attend more than one setting, the childminder has developed strong links with other local providers. This provides a collaborative approach to children's education.
- Parents are overwhelmingly positive about the childminder. She finds out substantial information about each child before they start at the setting and adapts her settling-in procedures according to the needs of the child. For example, she recognises when children may need additional support separating from their parent/carer and arranges home visits or to meet them regularly at a local park. This has had an extremely positive impact on children's emotional well-being.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a robust understanding of safeguarding. She is highly knowledgeable at identifying the different types of abuse and the signs and symptoms she should look out for. The childminder has a safeguarding policy in place with relevant contact numbers should she need them. She has completed thorough risk assessments of her home and for any outings she takes children on. This ensures children's welfare is safeguarded. The childminder has completed training in paediatric first aid. She completes accident forms and ensures parents are always informed of any injury a child has at the setting.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY272331
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	10138473
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 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	4 February 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2003 and lives in Daventry, Northamptonshire. She operates all year round from 7.45am until 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Emily Lofts

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of the childminder's interactions during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector observed the childminder completing an activity with children.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder about how she organises her provision and the curriculum.
- The inspector reviewed relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to two parents on the day of inspection, and 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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