

Childminder report

Inspection date: 7 February 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
------------------------------	-------------

The quality of education	Good
--------------------------	-------------

Behaviour and attitudes	Good
-------------------------	-------------

Personal development	Good
----------------------	-------------

Leadership and management	Good
---------------------------	-------------

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
--	------

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children play in a safe environment. Relationships between the childminder and children are positive. Children are happy and settled. Their emotional security is initially addressed well by the childminder. For example, she agrees a gradual settling-in procedure with parents in accordance with their child's needs.

The childminder ensures that children in her care consistently receive individual care and attention. She helps to boost children's self-esteem through praising their efforts as well as their achievements. Her use of positive reinforcement encourages desired behaviour. Children are physically active in different ways. The childminder provides suitably challenging large-play equipment in her garden, and she takes children on outings to soft-play centres.

The childminder identifies children's stages of development and what she intends for them to learn next. She implements her plans to promote children's different learning needs. This helps children to make as much progress as they can and acquire the necessary skills to help prepare them for the next stage of their learning. The childminder shares her assessments with parents and works with them to seek additional support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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

- The childminder implements her plans effectively, to ensure that children's learning builds on what they already know. She shares information with parents every day about children's achievements and about how their care needs have been met. This is verbally and in writing as each child has their own book which parents take home every day.
- Children independently choose toys from boxes that the childminder makes easily accessible to them in the play area. Currently, their favourites are interactive toys with buttons. Young children demonstrate good handling skills. They know that if they press the buttons, the toys make sounds and play tunes.
- The childminder encourages babies to develop upper body control when in a sitting position, while also giving them opportunities to develop strength in their legs.
- The childminder obtains information from parents about babies' and young children's routines at home so that she can follow these in her setting. Children rest or sleep in accordance with their individual needs. The childminder understands the unique signs to each child that indicate they are tired. She talks with parents about introducing new foods with different textures for babies.
- Children explore their senses in different ways. For safety reasons, due to the floor in the play area being partly shiny wood, the children wear slipper socks.

They enjoy the sound that they can make while they walk on the spongy plastic play mat in their socks. Young children explore textures and make marks in resources, such as play dough, paint and sand. They make marks with chalks.

- The childminder understands babies' wants and needs through interpreting the sounds that they make. She uses young children's interest in interactive toys to encourage language development. For example, one of the toys makes the sounds that animals make, and the childminder encourages them to repeat the sounds.
- The childminder gives children individual attention and identifies those who prefer to play alone. She takes children out to places where they can meet other children. However, she has not fully considered ways to support children who do not show an interest in interacting with others.
- Records, policies and procedures, which are required for the safe and efficient management of the provision and to ensure that the needs of all children are met, are appropriately maintained and implemented.
- The childminder completes statutory training. She keeps her knowledge of early years issues up to date, for example through her membership of an association for early years workers and communication with a representative of the local authority and other childminders.
- The childminder identifies some practice that helps children to understand diversity. However, she does not fully consider ways to help children recognise similarities and differences between themselves and others and learn about different communities, families and traditions.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder completes training to keep her child protection knowledge up to date. She is aware of the signs of abuse and neglect and knows the local referral procedures to follow if she has a concern. The childminder understands the duty to prevent children from being drawn into situations that put them at risk. She makes sure that her house and garden are secure so that children cannot leave unsupervised and unwanted visitors cannot gain access. The childminder identifies and appropriately minimises potential risks in her home.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- build on current teaching strategies for supporting children who engage in solitary play to begin interacting with others
- improve practice for helping children to learn about similarities and differences in society and gain a better understanding of cultures and traditions beyond their own.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY232267
Local authority	Sandwell
Inspection number	10221832
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	0 to 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	16 August 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2002 and lives in the Cradley Heath area of Sandwell. She operates all year round from 7.30am until 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Jan Burnet

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how she ensures that they are safe and suitable.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of members of the household.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2022