

Childminder report

Inspection date: 11 March 2022

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 have a truly wonderful time in the care of the talented and skilful childminder. They thrive and feel content in the warm and welcoming home where they demonstrate exceptionally strong bonds with the childminder and their friends. Children like nothing better than snuggling up together listening to stories expertly read by the childminder. She brings the stories alive and this both enthral children and captures their imaginations. Children readily join in with familiar phrases and make comments about their favourite characters.

Children are inquisitive and highly motivated to learn. They enthusiastically join in with the excellent planned activities and demonstrate what they have learned previously. For example, children know that sticky tape is the best solution to repair their craft work. Throughout the day, the childminder superbly supports children's communication and language development. She deliberately uses new words during the delightful conversations, and children repeat these words, using them in their own conversations. Children's behaviour is excellent. They know about good manners and show respect and consideration for others. Children recognise when they can be helpful and happily find brushes to clear the floor after a craft activity.

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

- The childminder has an outstanding knowledge of the children she cares for. Her exceptional partnerships with parents contribute to this knowledge and give her an excellent insight into children's backgrounds, abilities and interests. The childminder uses this wealth of information exceptionally well to develop and plan activities and experiences that inspire children to learn. The curriculum is exceptionally well sequenced to help children consolidate what they already know and begin to enhance their skills and knowledge even further.
- The childminder is an excellent teacher. She plays alongside children and gives them the time they need to process their thoughts and work things out for themselves. Where necessary, she shows children how to safely handle things, such as scissors. Children are delighted with their newfound abilities and have a real sense of achievement when practising cutting for the first time.
- Children's interests are supported exceptionally well, and the childminder makes the best of every moment to teach them something new. For example, as children rearrange the magnetised letters displayed on the fridge, the childminder talks about those featured in the child's name and the sounds they make.
- There is an excellent range of resources and opportunities available for children to make marks. Because of this, children freely choose to use pencils, crayons and chalks as they play. They are beginning to demonstrate good control as

they draw smiles on their models or make big sweeping marks with chalks on a fence.

- The childminder is highly sensitive to children's needs and ensures that care routines are unhurried and give children the privacy and dignity they deserve. These positive experiences help to develop children's awareness and confidence to manage their own care, for example when potty training. Children develop an excellent knowledge of good hygiene. They know that they should use soap, and say they must 'rub hard' to remove germs as they wash their hands.
- Parents have the highest regard for the childminder and their comments about her care for their children are overwhelmingly positive. They recognise her passion for her role and how children's care and development remains a firm focus for her work. Parents comment that children thrive in her care and that she 'nurtures the children in the most beautiful ways'. They are pleased to have plenty of information about their children's progress and appreciate how the childminder works in partnership with them.
- The dedicated childminder takes pride in her work and strives to always improve her practice. She undertakes regular training and, consequently, is very confident in her approach to teaching young children. The childminder links well with other professionals. She regularly facilitates group activities with other childminders in the area. This has an excellent impact on helping children to meet and socialise with others.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a robust knowledge of her responsibility to keep children safe from harm. She ensures her safeguarding training is up to date and has an excellent understanding of the potential risks that children may face. This includes wider safeguarding issues, such as children being exposed to extremist ideas and beliefs. The childminder knows how to report her concerns to the appropriate authorities. She also helps children to manage risks and teaches them to keep themselves safe. For example, the childminder teaches children about road safety from a very young age.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY267243
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10113013
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	2 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	22
Date of previous inspection	4 December 2014

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2003 and lives in Witchford, Cambridgeshire. She operates Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jacqueline Baker

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.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about what she wants children to learn and the skills she helps them to develop.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector and childminder completed a joint evaluation of an activity.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- A number of parents wrote to the inspector, who took account of their views.

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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