

Childminder report

Inspection date: 17 March 2022

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	Outstanding
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children build secure attachments with the childminder and demonstrate that they are happy in her care. They show that they are emotionally safe and secure as they smile and are keen to join in and explore the activities available. Children are confident to approach the childminder when they want to explore new activities or require help. They are social and play happily alongside each other with small-world toys. Children enjoy the childminder's company and engage in conversations with her. They enjoy snuggling together for their favourite stories in the calm and relaxed environment.

Children enjoy a varied range of activities the childminder plans for them. They have good opportunities to explore different textures, such as dough, paint, water and mud. Children are encouraged to be physically active in the garden. They access a variety of wheeled toys that develop their skills. Children are involved in planting and caring for the garden. The childminder introduces children to the life cycle of the frog. She has built a small pond in the garden to allow them to revisit this learning.

Children behave well. The childminder values and celebrates children's efforts. For instance, children's individual artwork and crafts are displayed on the walls. This helps to develop children's confidence. Children receive regular praise and encouragement, which helps to raise their self-esteem. They are familiar with the routines of the day and listen to instructions. The childminder gives children the opportunity to make their own choices in play, which helps them to develop their decision-making skills.

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

- The childminder provides a warm and nurturing environment for children. She treats each child with care and kindness and values their individuality. Children's behaviour is very good and they share and use resources cooperatively.
- The childminder knows the children in her care exceptionally well. She considers their interests and learning needs when planning learning experiences. This motivates the children to explore new activities.
- The childminder offers a wide range of books based on the children's interests. Children enjoy choosing their favourite stories and listen intently as she reads. The childminder engages the children by asking lots of thought-provoking questions around the illustrations. This helps children to understand what is being read.
- The childminder understands the importance of developing children's communication and language skills. She talks to children in activities and sings songs. However, the childminder's programme for communication and language

does not consistently support the youngest children to build on their vocabulary.

- Children are supported to manage some independent self-care skills. For example, they wash their hands and eat independently. However, the childminder does not consistently encourage children's perseverance to develop these skills further and promote their personal independence.
- The childminder supports children's understanding of number as they play. She encourages them to count as they play with the dough. They count objects while looking at illustrations in books. The childminder helps older children to recognise numbers. They enjoy table-top games to develop their understanding of the value of numerals up to five.
- The childminder knows how to help children who speak English as an additional language. For example, she works closely with parents to learn key words and phrases in children's home languages. This enables children to have opportunities to use their home language while in her care.
- Partnerships with parents are very good and all parents speak extremely highly of the childminder. Regular communication is shared with parents about their children, including activities they take part in. The childminder suggests ideas for supporting children at home. Parents comment that the childminder's communication is excellent and children are treated with kindness and respect.
- The childminder keeps her mandatory training, such as first aid, up to date. She keeps abreast of any new changes in childcare through her links with her childminding adviser. The childminder accesses monthly online meetings with guest speakers to develop her skills further. She regularly gathers feedback from parents to help her reflect on her practice.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder's safeguarding training is regularly refreshed to support her knowledge and skills. She understands her duty to protect children in her care and the importance of being alert to issues and concerns in a child's life. The childminder knows how to report any concerns about children or adults to the appropriate authorities. She can recognise different signs of abuse, including children who may be at risk of being exposed to extreme views, county lines and female genital mutilation.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen the programme for communication and language to take account of children's differing levels of ability when supporting them to learn new vocabulary
- find more ways to support children's personal development to encourage greater

independence with their self-care skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	256899
Local authority	Peterborough
Inspection number	10137466
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 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	7 August 2014

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1994 and lives in Peterborough. She operates from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a level 3 childcare qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Louise Harris

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views on the setting with the inspector.
- The childminder explained the curriculum for the children to the inspector. The inspector viewed the areas used for childcare.
- The inspector reviewed essential documentation, including the childminder's paediatric-first aid certificate.

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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