

Childminder report

Inspection date:

25 July 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 are extremely happy and settled. They have wonderful relationships with the exceptionally kind childminder and her caring assistant. Children display high levels of independence and confidence. They take responsibility for their belongings. Children diligently place their bags on their named coat pegs. They have an exceedingly good understanding of the routines for the day. Children manage their personal care very well and display an excellent understanding of health and hygiene practices. They demonstrate high levels of concentration. Children display a can-do attitude. They skilfully use safety knives to cut a selection of fruits to eat for snack.

Children are curious and motivated to learn. They are fascinated as they watch a ladybird land and crawl across a box. Children engage in meaningful conversations with their friends and the childminder's assistant. They discuss the different colours on the ladybird and announce, 'it has wings', as it flies away. The childminder's assistant is quick to extend children's learning. She enthusiastically suggests they go on a bug hunt. Children think where the bugs might be and delight in turning over slabs and stones. They name the various bugs they see, and if they are unsure they refer to the poster on the wall in the garden displaying the images and names of insects. The knowledgeable and experienced childminder knows when to stand back and when to offer children sensitive support. She effectively supports children's emotional well-being and constantly offers praise and encouragement to children as they play.

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

- The childminder's home is exceptionally clean and well-organised. She provides children with a thoughtful and ambitious curriculum. The childminder knows children exceedingly well and makes meticulous assessments of what they know and can do. The childminder uses this information to plan precisely for children's individual learning needs. Children make exceptional progress in all areas of their learning.
- The childminder and her assistant work extremely well together. They make an excellent team. The childminder is an outstanding role model and carefully monitors her assistant's practice to ensure it meets with her high standards. Together, they reflect on what they do well, and are quick to recognise areas for further development. For example, the childminder recently purchased even more resources to support children to learn about feelings and emotions. The childminder carries out extensive research about child development and completes a wide range of training to update and develop her already exemplary practice.
- The childminder models language incredibly well. Children develop excellent

communication skills. Children focus and sit comfortably with the childminder as they read books together. They learn new words as the childminder points to pictures in a book. The childminder speaks clearly and slowly and allows children time to copy her. Young children repeat the word 'astronaut'. The childminder skilfully asks children questions which give them time to think and respond. For example, she asks them to look at the pictures and consider who they would choose to go on an adventure with them. The childminder listens attentively to their responses.

- Children develop excellent physical skills and benefit from lots of fresh air and exercise. They laugh with their friends as they confidently climb and balance on apparatus in the garden. The childminder builds on children's understanding of the world remarkably well. She regularly takes children to visit places of interest within their community. Children have fun at the park and thoroughly enjoy visiting a local farm park. They learn where food comes from as they plant and nurture vegetables, such as tomatoes and potatoes, in the childminder's spacious garden. At mealtimes, children thoroughly enjoy eating the produce they have grown. They develop confidence in new social situations. The childminder takes children to childminding groups to meet adults and mix and play with other children.
- The childminder has extremely effective partnerships with parents. She speaks to them at the beginning and end of the day about children's care needs and achievements. In addition, the childminder uses an online system to share a wealth of information about children's progress. Parents are highly complimentary about the care and education their children receive. They comment on the wonderful range of activities their children take part in and the outstanding progress children make.
- The childminder has excellent links with local schools and nurseries children attend. She fully understands the importance of sharing information with other professionals to offer a consistent and complementary approach to children's care and learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder promotes a culture of safeguarding. She has an excellent understanding of her role and responsibilities to keep children safe. The childminder has an in-depth knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse, including radical and extreme views or behaviours. The childminder is extremely confident and knows exactly what to do if she has a concern about a child in her care. Safeguarding updates are integral to her practice, with up-to-date safeguarding training completed by herself and her assistant. The childminder's home is fully secure. She completes thorough daily risk assessments to minimise any hazards to children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY264600
Local authority	Solihull
Inspection number	10116045
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	11
Date of previous inspection	22 July 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2003 and lives in Shirley, Solihull. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has an early years qualification at level 4. The childminder works with an assistant. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Tina Smith

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 provider and has taken this into account in her evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder her intentions for children's learning and the curriculum she offers.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written documentation.
- The inspector looked at required documentation, including evidence of the suitability of those living in 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.

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