

Childminder report

Inspection date: 12 August 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 at the heart of this exceptional childminder. They develop wonderful, secure and caring relationships with her, which helps them to feel safe and happy. Children benefit from a rich and diverse curriculum that is stimulating, vibrant and entices their desire to explore and develop a high level of curiosity and become active learners. For example, children gain excellent knowledge making lollies and know that when water freezes it turns to ice. Children eagerly describe their wonderful experiences and can recall and explain what they have learned, such as how to shell peas from their pods and make a pizza. They explore why things melt due to different temperatures. Children show delight in telling visitors how tomatoes change colour as they grow and ripen.

The childminder showers children with a wealth of praise and encouragement. This helps to support children's self-esteem. The childminder gives children very clear and consistent boundaries to help them understand her expectations. She is a superb role model and children's behaviour and manners are impeccable. Children are incredibly polite and say 'please' without prompting. Children's speech and vocabulary are exemplary. They have ample opportunities to use language, and the childminder skilfully extends their vocabulary with new words during all activities. Children learn the meaning and understanding of new words, such as 'bobbing' and 'molecules'. Children are exceptionally confident communicators.

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

- The childminder provides an extremely language-rich environment for children. She successfully models language at every opportunity to develop their understanding and speaking skills. Children who speak English as an additional language make rapid progress. The childminder learns and speaks keywords in the children's home language. She uses gestures and visual aids to enhance their understanding. This enables children to interact and communicate their needs exceptionally well.
- The childminder has a robust understanding of how children learn. Her curriculum takes account of their precise needs, interests and what they need to learn next. She implements exciting opportunities for children to build on what they already know and can do. This helps children make excellent progress. Children are very independent and like to problem solve. They learn about numbers, shapes and sizes in practical ways. For example, they count how many houses they see and look at everyday shapes when out in the wider community. The childminder praises children for their efforts, showing how proud they are when they succeed.
- The childminder is extremely committed to providing the best-quality care and learning for all the children. She seeks out professional development

opportunities. The knowledge the childminder gains she uses to enhance her existing outstanding practice.

- Parents are incredibly happy with the high-quality care and education their children receive. Parents are well informed about what their children are doing and learning. The childminder offers parent visits as part of the settling-in process. She observes children and establishes their starting points in learning with parents. This supports the progress that children make and ensures that their learning is seamless.
- The childminder meticulously challenges children. She encourages children to predict what might happen next and test their theories. For instance, children gather objects and observe if they float or sink when placed in the water tray. Children pour water on to the water wheel, discussing how much water they might need for it to turn.
- The childminder gives children the opportunities to regularly revisit activities, such as climbing and balancing when they visit local parks. This allows children to challenge themselves and make excellent progress in their physical development. Children benefit from an array of highly stimulating and first-hand experiences. The childminder has an allotment where children grow fruit and vegetables, such as strawberries, tomatoes and peas. They water them, watch them grow and enjoy eating them during snack time.
- The childminder supports children's independence. Children competently wash and dry their hands and use a knife and fork when eating. They learn about the importance of a healthy diet through discussions at mealtimes. The childminder skilfully ignites children's interest in keeping healthy through activities. Children play with model teeth and toothbrushes, exploring how to brush and clean them. The childminder introduces new vocabulary when naming certain teeth, such as 'molars'.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a very secure knowledge and understanding of how to keep children safe. She is aware of the signs and symptoms children may display if they are at risk of harm. The childminder knows exactly how to take swift action if she has any concerns about the children's welfare. The childminder knows where to report any concerns if an allegation is made against her or a family member. She has sound knowledge of wider safeguarding issues, such as female genital mutilation and 'Prevent' duty.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY295766
Local authority	Peterborough
Inspection number	10137463
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	4 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	18 June 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in Peterborough. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds qualified teacher status. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Diane Middleton

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 and the inspector had a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- Children communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the children.
- Parents shared their written views of the setting and the inspector also spoke to parents by telephone.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.
- The childminder and the inspector evaluated an activity.

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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