

Childminder report

Inspection date:

7 November 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
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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 quickly settle when they start attending and build positive relationships with the childminder. The childminder is caring and attentive towards the children, and they enjoy her enthusiastic involvement in their play. For example, toddlers are excited when the childminder suggests activities such as singing or reading together, and they eagerly approach her to join in. The childminder helps very young children begin to learn about being kind and respectful to one another. She talks to them about being kind to their friends, and she follows a gentle but clear and consistent approach when dealing with minor disagreements over toys.

The childminder knows the minded children well, including what they can do already, and she provides them with interesting and fun activities that contribute to their learning. Children are curious about the activities and confident to choose what they want to play with. They are excited and show anticipation as the childminder counts down while they hold model rockets. Some children say the numbers, and they all jump up and shout, 'blast off!' Children show concentration when they play. They know how to press buttons to make interactive toys play music, and they develop hand-eye coordination as they fill up narrow-necked containers with pasta shapes.

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

- The childminder has continued to develop her practice since the last inspection. She has changed the way her setting is organised, which allows children to make more independent choices about what they do. The childminder has widened the range of activities she provides for children. She shows a commitment to keeping her knowledge up to date through completing training courses that are relevant to her work. The childminder uses children's interests to provide a good range of activities and resources for them to play with. However, children have fewer opportunities to use their imaginations to explore and be curious about sensory experiences and items that have no expected end result.
- Overall, the childminder is effective in promoting children's speaking skills and in extending their vocabulary. Mostly, she speaks clearly to children, repeats words back to them and encourages them to name familiar features in picture books, such as the eyes, nose and mouth. Children are confident to speak to the childminder, and they listen to her intently when she reads books to them. However, on occasion, the childminder speaks very quickly to children, giving them too much information at once, and this results in them not knowing what is expected of them.
- Children behave well, and they are motivated to play. The childminder has clear routines in place to ensure that children know what comes next. Children know to go to the bathroom to wash their hands before eating a snack, and they join

in with a song as they wash their hands. Children know to sit down while they eat. Children respond to the childminder's clear and simple explanations about why it is important to share and be considerate of others.

- Children learn about nature and the environment as they take part in composting, planting and growing activities at the childminder's allotment and in her garden. The childminder helps children to learn about different types of plants and how to care for them. The childminder found that some children had limited hands-on outdoor opportunities, and digging and planting promote children's confidence and physical skills.
- Children are supported by the childminder to become independent. She encourages children to develop skills that contribute to their preparation for starting school when the time comes. Children confidently take out low-level storage boxes to select what they want to play with and eagerly help to tidy away when they have finished.
- Parents are happy with the childminder. They comment on her being dedicated to her work and how supportive she is towards them and their children. They like the effective communication from the childminder. This ensures they know what their child has been doing. Parents comment on how well the childminder supports their child to make progress in their learning, particularly their speaking skills.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder completes regular refresher training in safeguarding that helps to ensure her knowledge of safeguarding issues remains up to date. She knows how to recognise changes in children's well-being that may give cause for concern. She speaks confidently about how to record and report any concerns to the correct agencies. The childminder supervises children well and makes regular checks on children who are asleep. She carries out appropriate risk assessments of her home and outings, taking steps to minimise any hazards she identifies.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- develop further skills in speaking to children to give them time to process the information they are given and ensure they understand what is expected of them
- improve the opportunities for children to be curious and explore different sensory experiences to widen their knowledge further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY466079
Local authority	North Northamptonshire
Inspection number	10289162
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 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	15
Date of previous inspection	14 November 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2013 and lives in Rothwell, Northamptonshire. The childminder operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Melanie Eastwell

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 childminder.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during a range of activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about their intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

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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