

Childminder report

Inspection date: 21 June 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	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children appear happy and confident in the experienced childminder's care. They arrive eager to learn and settle quickly. Children benefit from the childminder's warm and kind approach. They sit on her lap and snuggle in when they need comfort. The childminder has high expectations for all children. This ensures children make good progress in their learning and development. For example, young children quickly learn how to put their own shoes on before going outside.

Children delight in using their small-muscle skills to thread and complete tricky jigsaw puzzles. They count cotton reels on to a string and show delight when they are praised for their counting. Children plunge their hands into soapy water and investigate the bubbles they create. The childminder provides children with boats to float on water. Children carefully place them in the water and watch them as they float, counting them and identifying different colours.

Children benefit from a safe, secure area outside. The childminder develops children's interest in growing plants. Children plant new seeds and help to repot plants that have outgrown their existing pots. The childminder helps children count the spades full of compost as they fill new pots. This helps to develop children's early understanding of numbers.

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

- The childminder implements a curriculum that builds on what the children in her care know and can do. She uses information from parents about children's interests and creates an environment that supports the children's learning. Children benefit from enjoying meaningful activities that enable them to learn.
- The childminder supports children's mathematical development. She gives children plenty of opportunities to count and sort different objects. The childminder introduces mathematical vocabulary as she plays alongside them. This helps children to build on their existing knowledge and learn new words. As a result, the children are confident to count and use mathematical language from a young age.
- Children are developing a good sense of the world around them. The childminder ensures she offers children experiences they may not have had before. The children grow plants from seeds and learn to care for them. They understand what the plants need to grow and survive.
- The childminder gives children a lot of praise and encouragement. Throughout the day, she uses positive words to encourage their positive behaviour. As a result, children behave well and grow in confidence.
- The childminder supports healthy lifestyles. She ensures that children drink plenty of water and wash their hands to get rid of germs. She helps to support

parents to ensure that children's lunch boxes have healthy items included. This helps children to understand the importance of healthy eating.

- Children use their small-muscle skills to colour and make marks on paper. They spread glue on their pictures and decorate their creations with seeds that they sprinkle on and press down. This develops children's coordination skills.
- The childminder ensures that there is a good balance of adult-directed activities as well as opportunities for children to explore independently. However, on occasions, the childminder does not always build on children's interests and seize opportunities to further extend children's learning. For example, as children explore the sunflower seeds, the childminder talks with them about how they can be eaten and that they are good for them. However, children are not then given opportunity to explore how they taste.
- Parents speak warmly about the childminder's care of the children. They state they have developed good relationships with her. Parents talk about the regular updates they receive regarding their child's development. This helps parents to support children's learning at home.
- The childminder helps to support children's social skills. She takes children out to the shops and visits the local park. As a result of this, children become more confident around others.
- The childminder ensures she attends regular courses on child development and behaviour management. This has improved her knowledge of how to promote children's positive behaviour and her understanding of how children learn and develop in the early years.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder creates a safe environment for children. She ensures that risks are minimised and implements safety measures so that children are protected from harm. The childminder has a good knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse. She understands the procedure to follow if she has concerns about a child in her care. The childminder understands the importance of keeping children safe online and shares information with parents to further support this. The childminder understands how to manage allegations and is aware of the possible signs of children at risk of exposure to extreme views and behaviour.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- seize opportunities to build on children's interests and extend their learning so that children gain new knowledge.

Setting details

Unique reference number	220342
Local authority	West Northamptonshire
Inspection number	10231702
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 7
Total number of places	3
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	16 September 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1998 and lives in Abington, Northampton. She operates all year round from 8.30am until 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Stephanie North

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 provision.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about their intentions for children's learning.
- Children spoke to/communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The childminder and inspector discussed how the curriculum had been implemented and the impact that this had on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.

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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