

Childminder report

Inspection date: 28 July 2021

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy and smile a lot as they enjoy their play experiences in the childminder's homely environment. They have lots of space to play and a range of resources to choose from, both indoors and outdoors in the secure garden. Children develop their physical skills as they ride round on wheeled toys along the garden path. The childminder skilfully weaves information about road safety as they play. She pretends to cross the road and the children remind her to look both ways to check for cars. Children are developing an understanding of how to keep themselves safe.

Children receive dedicated support from the patient childminder, who has a good understanding of each child's unique capabilities. The childminder has high expectations and all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, make good progress and gain a secure foundation for their learning. Children love to read stories. They snuggle with each other and the childminder as they read together. Children turn the pages in the story and repeat the parts they know. They cheer at the end of the story when they see the butterfly emerge. Activities based on popular stories capture children's interest and they delight in showing their artwork that is displayed in the childminder's home.

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

- The childminder shows passion and commitment to her role. She has high expectations for children and uses her knowledge of children's abilities and interests to plan for what they need to learn next. The childminder observes children at play and makes accurate assessments of their achievements. She knows the children well. However, she does not make the most of play opportunities to consistently extend children's learning and support them to make the best possible progress.
- The childminder has developed strong relationships with parents. Parents become emotional when speaking to the inspector about the childminder as they say their children benefit enormously from attending the setting. They comment that the progress their child has made is 'phenomenal'. Parents feel well informed about their child's development. Due to the pandemic, the childminder exchanges information on the doorstep with parents as children arrive and leave. She kept in regular contact with children and their families if they did not attend during the pandemic.
- The childminder provides activities where children can explore colour, different textures and use different techniques to make marks. Children delight in seeing their artwork displayed around the childminder's home. However, the craft activities are not as well resourced as they could be to encourage children to fully use their imagination and creativity.

- The childminder understands that during the pandemic some children have not had many opportunities to practise their self-help skills. The childminder encourages children to be increasingly independent. Children help themselves to fruit and breadsticks at the snack bar and put their cups and bowls in the sink when they have finished. They get their shoes on to go outside, and they have a go at doing up their zips on their coats. Children gain confidence in their abilities and acquire useful skills, to prepare well for their move on to school.
- The childminder is skilful in introducing the language of size during play and encourages children to count as they knock down tin cans with bean bags. The children are beginning to recognise numerals and count within 10. Children's knowledge of mathematical concepts is developing well.
- The childminder helps children to identify risks and keep themselves safe during their play. For instance, as children ride up and down the garden path on wheeled toys, the childminder pretends she needs to cross the road. They talk about road safety and the importance of looking both ways before they cross.
- The childminder reflects on the service that she provides for the children and their families. She has recently spent time improving the outdoor playspace for children to explore and investigate the natural world. Following her reflection she has purchased outdoor suits for the children to go out in all weathers. The childminder is proactive in keeping up to date with her core training, such as first aid and safeguarding.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder demonstrates a secure understanding of statutory requirements and local safeguarding procedures. She knows how to identify the signs of abuse and who to report her concerns to. In addition, she is aware of the indicators that a child might be at risk of being exposed to extreme ideas or behaviours. The childminder ensures that her setting is safe and suitable for children. She makes daily checks of her home and supervises children well throughout the day. The childminder regularly keeps up to date with the latest child protection information and guidance through attending training.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- make better use of opportunities while children play to extend their learning and challenge them to make the best possible progress
- extend opportunities for children to use their imagination and creativity.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2508256
Local authority	Nottinghamshire County Council
Inspection number	10191699
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2019 and lives in Kirkby in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for family holidays. The childminder holds a recognised childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Tracy Hopkins

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in the evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector observed the quality of education both indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning. The childminder and the inspector carried out a joint observation together to assess the quality of teaching and learning.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk of the setting, where they discussed how the childminder uses the premises and resources for children's care and learning.
- The inspector sampled a selection of documentation, including evidence of the suitability of household members, insurance, and the childminder's training.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children throughout the inspection, and took account of the views of parents that were contacted by telephone.

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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