

Childminder report

Inspection date: 17 May 2022

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 thrive with this experienced childminder. They quickly form strong relationships with her, and look forward to spending time at the setting. Children enjoy exploring the wealth of learning opportunities on offer. They delight in listening to stories and eagerly join in with art activities. Children initiate lots of imaginative play, such as pretending to make cups of tea for the childminder. They are curious, active learners and enjoy developing their understanding about the world around them. This includes first-hand experiences that help them to learn about animals' habitats and their food preferences. Children enjoy visits to the park to feed the ducks and to the farm where they feed the lambs. Children sow seeds and know how to care for them to help them to grow well.

The childminder supervises children well. She is always nearby to offer encouragement and praise. Children feel secure, and they enjoy the challenge of trying new things. For example, young children eagerly attempt to climb the steps of the slide at the park, demonstrating confidence and courage.

The children and the childminder take pleasure in chatting together throughout the day. Younger children babble happily. They gesture and point, letting the childminder know what they need, and the childminder promptly responds. Children are competent communicators and they develop good listening, and attention skills. They have excellent manners and behave extremely well.

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

- The childminder helps children to develop an awareness of personal safety. Children know that they must stop at the roadside and listen for traffic, to check that it is safe to cross. The childminder holds conversations with older children about keeping themselves safe online. Children are gaining a good understanding of how to protect themselves from possible harms.
- The childminder offers excellent support for children's language development. Children benefit from many high-quality back-and-forth interactions. The childminder introduces new, interesting words as the children play. For example, young children learn about 'stethoscope, bandage' and 'medicine' as they pretend to be vets, taking care of the toy animals. The childminder reads books daily with the children. These include non-fiction books, such as 'farm animals', to extend children's vocabulary. Children make rapid progress in their communication and language.
- The childminder encourages children to develop their independence. Young children understand that they need to wash hands before eating; they go to the bathroom, stand on a step to reach the sink, and begin to wash their hands. Children attempt to put on their own clothing before a trip to the park. They

help to prepare snack by washing the strawberries and blueberries. They confidently use cutlery at mealtimes. The childminder is mindful in allowing children enough time to practise and persevere. Children are proud when they succeed. They learn self-help skills and attitudes, which will support their future learning.

- Children learn good habits to keep themselves physically healthy. The childminder provides them with plenty of opportunities to be physically active and children enjoy spending time outdoors. For example, they exercise their whole bodies on the play equipment at the local park. Children strengthen their muscles as they ride on bikes and use push-along toys. The childminder provides children with a nutritious, varied menu.
- The childminder has a good understanding of her early years curriculum. She plans activities and experiences which are developmentally appropriate and exciting. She includes children's interests in her planning and allows them to lead their own play. Consequently, children are highly engaged, motivated learners.
- The childminder is ambitious and reflects well on the service that she provides. She strives to provide the highest quality care and teaching. She meets with local childminding groups to share good practice and works with the local authority to keep her safeguarding knowledge updated. However, recently, her professional development has not been precisely focused on extending her knowledge and understanding of children's learning, and their education programmes.
- Partnership with parents is strong. The childminder holds daily communication with parents, sharing information about children's care and learning. She helps parents to continue the learning at home, and they regularly share information with the childminder about their children's achievements. Parents are extremely satisfied with the setting. They say that they 'couldn't be happier' and that their children 'adore coming here'.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has robust systems and policies in place to keep children safe. She carries out regular checks to ensure that her house is free from hazards. She routinely completes risk assessments for off-site activities. Equipment and toys are clean and safe. The childminder keeps her safeguarding knowledge updated by attending training and networking groups. She knows the signs and symptoms that might indicate that a child is in danger of harm. She fully understands local referral procedures and is confident to seek help should she need it. The childminder holds a relevant paediatric first-aid qualification.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- continue to access training and professional development opportunities, to further extend knowledge and understanding to enhance children's education programmes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2512907
Local authority	Telford & Wrekin
Inspection number	10207827
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 8
Total number of places	9
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2019. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Denise Daley

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector completed a learning walk and discussed the intent and delivery of the curriculum with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the childminder and children, during play and care routines, to determine the quality of interactions and teaching.
- The inspector spoke to parents, to gather their views of the setting.
- The inspector scrutinised documentation, and held conversations with the childminder, to discuss safeguarding arrangements and to determine the suitability of persons 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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