

Childminder report

Inspection date: 20 January 2020

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	Outstanding
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The playroom offers a safe space with a good range of resources, which are easily accessible for children to enjoy at their own leisure. For example, children confidently help themselves to the various pens hanging on the wall in pots and thoroughly enjoy making their creations. Children show a real sense of belonging and are keen to help prepare the table for lunch. They enjoy conversations with the childminder and each other. The childminder skilfully manages the mixed age group. Babies are fully included and she is attentive to their needs. They show good levels of involvement during activities. For example, the childminder suggests playing dominoes and children eagerly sit at the table to take part and learn to match. She has a wealth of books, which she uses extremely well to motivate children to learn. For example, the childminder skilfully uses a variety of age-appropriate books with babies, which have flaps, sounds and textures, and they delight in this. Children enjoy the close contact with the childminder and feel safe. They easily adopt roles and are imaginative as they play with the cars and dolls. Children show a keen interest in counting, matching and recognising colours. However, children have fewer opportunities to explore concepts, such as weight, measurement and quantity, in order to help extend their mathematical learning even further.

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

- The childminder is well qualified and experienced, and plans an educational programme around the needs of the children who attend. For example, every morning, children attend a variety of local playgroups in the area to help promote their physical and social development. She ensures children who attend after nursery and school have time to relax and freely choose what they would like to do.
- The childminder uses the natural world as a good base to help children learn. For example, children have good first-hand experiences to learn about the changing seasons. They regularly visit the local parks, nature trails and farms, and help plant and care for fruits and vegetables in the garden.
- The childminder places a good focus on promoting children's communication and language skills during her interactions. She skilfully introduces new words, concepts and ideas, and uses books extremely well to reinforce learning. She provides plenty of opportunities for children to make marks and write.
- The childminder regularly assesses children's learning and plans activities for their enjoyment and to help them progress. However, she does not always make the most of this information to help her provide activities with the highest level of challenge in order to help children make the best possible progress.
- The childminder develops very close relationships with parents and they report they are extremely impressed by the care and quality of experiences on offer.

They value the detailed information they receive about their children's care and progress, and the advice and support on any parenting issues they experience.

- The childminder ensures all her mandatory training is up to date to promote children's welfare and safety. She regularly meets with other childminders for support and is keen to try new ideas. However, she does not often enough use professional development opportunities and incisively evaluate practice to help her identify precisely how she can raise the quality of teaching even further.
- The childminder provides healthy meals and snacks and reinforces the importance of healthy eating. For example, children use and prepare the fresh produce from the garden and learn about its health benefits. They walk daily to and from school and nursery, and learn that exercise is good for their bodies. The childminder places a good focus on supporting babies' physical development throughout the day.
- The childminder has very close relationships with children and they are happy and confident in her care. She places a strong focus on children learning to respect each other and understanding the codes of behaviour in place. Children behave well. They learn how to keep safe on outings and how to use tools safely.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The home is clean, safe and suitable. There are clear procedures in place to keep children safe around the pet dog. There are effective procedures in place to ensure household members are suitable. The childminder has a good understanding of child protection issues and knows the procedure to follow if she has a concern about a child. Keeping children safe is given good regard. The childminder carries out detailed risk assessments to ensure children are safe as they walk to and from school and nursery. She is vigilant and ensures that the car seats and restraints provided are age appropriate when using the car for transporting children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- make the very best use of any professional development opportunities and adopt a more reflective approach to help evaluate practice and extend the quality of teaching to the highest level
- use more sharply children's assessment information to help provide highly challenging activities, in particular in mathematics, to help them make the best possible progress across the curriculum.

Setting details

Unique reference number	255579
Local authority	Dudley
Inspection number	10115980
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 to 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	15
Date of previous inspection	29 October 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1997 and lives in Kingswinford, West Midlands. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Parm Sansoyer

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents.

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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