

Childminder report

Inspection date: 3 June 2025

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

The childminder creates a happy, homely environment for children. Individualised settling-in sessions help children and parents feel confident in her provision. The childminder plans a familiar routine, which helps children feel safe and secure. Children demonstrate a positive attitude to learning, eagerly engaging in activities the childminder has carefully provided. Children confidently greet the childminder and visitors and enthusiastically engage them in their play.

The childminder organises her curriculum to build on what children already know and can do. She plans and prepares resources in advance that stimulate children's interest. This helps to provide smooth transitions between activities. The childminder supports children to develop a love of books. Children have access to a large range of high-quality stories. The childminder provides opportunities for children to explore stories in various ways, including interactive audiobooks and film. She encourages children to talk about their favourite books and recall events from the story. This helps children develop their language, communication and early literacy skills.

The childminder has high expectations of children's behaviour. Children respectfully listen and follow instructions. The childminder provides children with choices to help them direct their own learning. Children build close friendships. They share, take turns and show kindness to their peers as they happily play together. The childminder helps children learn about their local community and world around them. Children enjoy outings to supermarkets, parks and nature trails. They visit streams, feed ducks and explore activities that challenge their physical skills.

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

- The childminder has a wealth of experience of working with young children. She understands how children develop and can identify gaps and delays in children's learning. She sensitively supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). She observes children as they play and identifies next steps in their development. She completes progress reports for children aged two and works in partnership with parents and health visitors to monitor children's progress.
- The childminder understands the skills children need for the next stage of their education. She provides resources that encourage development in all areas of learning. Children develop their fine motor and early mathematical skills as they use tongs to sort and match objects into different-coloured bowls. They explore number and practise their counting skills. The childminder sensitively addresses misconceptions when children miscount and models how to count accurately. As children play with play dough, the childminder models how to mould shapes and

talks about size. Children talk about making bugs and create their own creatures. The childminder talks to children as they play, however, she does not always identify opportunities to extend conversations and raise children's learning to an even higher level.

- The childminder promotes children's good health and well-being. She maintains high levels of cleanliness in her home. She ensures that children thoroughly wash their hands after toileting and before eating. She promotes healthy eating, encouraging children to make healthy choices. Children access fresh drinking water throughout the day. This promotes their oral health.
- Parents talk about strong bonds both they and their children have with the childminder. Daily communication with parents enables the childminder to discover what children are learning at home and share development updates with parents. Parents say their children are happy to attend. They describe the childminder as calm, warm-hearted and friendly. They state that she supports children to be outgoing and kind, which has a positive impact on their children's development. Parents say the childminder sets clear boundaries and encourages children to think for themselves.
- The childminder follows policies and procedures to ensure her compliance to the requirements of the early years foundation stage. However, she does not always monitor and complete training to ensure her knowledge and skills of early years practice are up to date. Her paediatric first-aid qualification expired prior to the inspection. That said, she demonstrates a clear knowledge and understanding of first aid and the procedures to follow in an emergency. She has recently completed the first part of her training and has arrangements in place to complete the course a few weeks after the inspection. Therefore, this has a minimal impact on children's safety and well-being.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- monitor and complete mandatory training and further professional development to ensure that knowledge and skills of early years practice are always up to date to improve outcomes for children even further
- strengthen conversations and interactions with children to deepen children's knowledge and stretch their learning to an even higher level.

Setting details

Unique reference number	258803
Local authority	Dudley
Inspection number	10394573
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 3
Total number of places	3
Number of children on roll	2
Date of previous inspection	13 September 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2001 and lives in Brierley Hill, Dudley. She operates from 8am to 5pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years childcare qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for children from birth to four years old.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Sharon Wilcox

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure they are safe and suitable.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises their early years provision, including the aims and rationale for their early years foundation stage curriculum.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about children's learning and development, with a particular focus on communication and language.
- Children spoke with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the children.
- The childminder and inspector discussed how the curriculum had been implemented and the impact that this had on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views of the childminder with the inspector.
- 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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