

Childminder report

Inspection date: 14 February 2024

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children enjoy attending the childminder's home and the childminder forms strong bonds with the children. The childminder provides children with effective support to learn about turn taking and sharing. Older children are kind and helpful, recognising when younger children need their support. For instance, they offer to help younger children to take the lids off the coloured pens. Children demonstrate their good behaviour as they wait patiently for their turn to grate the cheese at lunchtime.

The childminder provides children with good support to make progress in their learning. Children learn how to solve problems and persevere well at activities. Older children follow the childminder's instructions and then try things by themselves. For instance, they watch as the childminder folds paper so it fits in an envelope. They then try this independently, concentrating and persevering until they succeed. The childminder provides children with praise for their achievements, which helps to build their self-esteem.

The childminder supports children to understand how to keep themselves safe when they are out. Children follow her instructions well and walk carefully, holding hands with one another. They instinctively know to wait at the road before crossing, demonstrating their strong understanding of why it is important to follow the rules that are in place.

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

- Since the last inspection, the childminder has worked hard to improve her practice. She reflected on her provision and has made some good improvements. These have helped to strengthen her interactions with children. She continues to reflect on what she does. She liaises with other childminders to discuss and share ideas. She provides children with new opportunities and recognises how these will benefit children's development. For instance, she takes children to groups so that they can build their confidence around other people, in preparation for them moving on to nursery or school.
- The childminder plans purposeful activities that relate to the children's interests and individual targets. Younger children build their confidence. For instance, they enjoy exploring new sensory opportunities. The childminder reassures them that it is alright to get their hands dirty, encouraging them to explore the different textures they can feel on their hands. This helps to keep children engaged in the activities they complete.
- Children enjoy opportunities to develop new skills. The childminder provides them with ample time to explore and master these skills independently. She gives them clear guidance and instructions to follow, recognising that children

need time to process what she is saying. For example, children take their time to cut fruit at snack time. The childminder explains how to hold the knife and what action to use to cut through the fruit. She allows them to practise and explore safely before providing them with support to complete the task.

- Parents are happy with the care the childminder provides. They receive information about what their children have experienced with the childminder and recognise the good progress their children make. The childminder provides parents with support and guidance, making suggestions of things they can do with their children to help their learning progress at home.
- The childminder helps children to build on their language and communication skills, speaking to them about the activities they complete. Children use their growing vocabulary as they explain to the childminder what they are creating. For instance, they speak about what they are writing as they make marks on the cards they decorate. However, sometimes the childminder does not reinforce children's learning or help them to make connections between their experiences. This limits children's ability to strengthen and consolidate their knowledge even further.
- The childminder participates in focused professional development opportunities to support her practice and interactions with children. She reflects on the provision she offers and makes appropriate adaptations to suit the needs of all children. The childminder provides an inclusive home-from-home environment where children thrive and feel safe.

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:

- support children to consolidate what they learn and make connections between their experiences to strengthen their knowledge and understanding.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2600810
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10282723
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 7
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	23 February 2023

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2020. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jenny Hardy

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises their early years provision, including the aims and rationale for their EYFS curriculum.
- The inspector read feedback from parents and took their views into consideration.
- 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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