

Childminder report

Inspection date:

8 December 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 appear relaxed and happy in the childminder's care. One-year-old children settle quickly when their parents drop them off. They happily explore the exciting activities on offer. Children show positive attitudes to learning. They spend sustained periods exploring paint to make a Christmas tree picture. The childminder is skilled in recognising that children want to experiment using their hands and fingers to paint. She adapts the activity and gives children plenty of time to have a go.

Children behave very well. The childminder supervises children closely and models manners to children, such as saying 'please' and 'thank you'. She introduces sharing to children. For example, when children take toys away from their friends, she shows them how to share to make sure everyone has a turn.

The childminder ensures children have opportunities to mix with others as part of a larger group. She takes children to local playgroups and soft-play centres. The childminder supports children to develop a healthy lifestyle. She provides them with drinking water to keep them hydrated. The childminder encourages parents to provide healthy packed lunches. Children have many opportunities to develop their physical skills. The childminder regularly takes children to the local park or out to play in her secure garden.

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

- The childminder ensures the experiences she offers to children build on the opportunities they have at home. She recognises that children do not always have opportunities to explore sensory materials. Children giggle as they experiment with making marks in porridge oats. They spend long periods watching how the oats move as they pick them up in their hands and let them go. This broadens the experiences children have.
- The childminder has effective hygiene procedures in place. She makes sure children's drinks bottles are washed if they drop on the floor. The childminder makes sure children wipe their hands before eating. She wipes children's noses promptly when they are not clean.
- The childminder encourages children to be independent. She talks to them about holding their cup and drinking from this themselves. The childminder encourages young babies to crawl and begin to walk around her home instead of her carrying them. One-year-old children confidently feed themselves sandwiches and crisps at lunchtime.
- The childminder sings to children throughout the day. Children learn many different number songs and rhymes. One-year-old children clap excitedly when she asks them if they would like to sing another song. The childminder provides

exciting books suitable for children's age and stage of development. For example, children begin to turn the pages in different sensory books.

- The childminder mostly promotes children's communication and language skills well. She explains how she takes children's dummies out when they do not need them, to encourage children to talk. The childminder makes eye contact when she speaks to children and gets down to their level. Occasionally, when one-year-old children hold up an object and babble to the childminder, she makes babbling sounds back to them. The childminder does not name the objects children are referring to. She does not yet consistently develop children's speech.
- The childminder has an effective partnership with parents. Parents comment that their children have flourished in the childminder's care. They appreciate the daily photos the childminder sends to them. The childminder has regular meetings with parents about what children's next steps are. She provides ideas for how parents can support their children at home. Alongside children's parents, the childminder works effectively with other professionals, such as health visitors, if children need additional support.
- Since registration, the childminder has kept up to date with her mandatory training. She is a reflective practitioner and she recognises what is working well and what could be improved further. For example, the childminder has recently altered her garden to ensure this can be accessed in all weathers.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a secure knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse. She is aware of the procedure to follow if she has concerns about a child. Additionally, she knows who to contact if an allegation is made against herself or a household member. The childminder has a detailed safeguarding policy which contains the contact numbers for the relevant agencies. She regularly keeps her safeguarding knowledge up to date and has signed up to local authority email updates. The childminder ensures she supervises children closely in her home. She ensures she can always see all the children she is caring for.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- promote speech development further by ensuring the correct grammatical language is used when speaking to children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2603001
Local authority	North Northamptonshire
Inspection number	10266613
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 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2020. She lives in Weldon, Northamptonshire. The childminder operates all year round, from 7.30am to 5.30pm on Monday to Thursday, except bank holidays and family holidays. She offers places for funded nursery education and holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Emily Lofts

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the childminder.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how she ensures that they are safe and suitable.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about their intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- Parents shared their views on the setting with the inspector. Written feedback from parents was also viewed.
- 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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