

Childminder report

Inspection date: 21 July 2023

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 are happy and content with this childminder. They demonstrate they are comfortable in their surroundings. The childminder supports the children to move safely around her home, and they choose what they want to play with. The childminder joins in with children's play. She gets down to their level and talks to them about what they are doing. This is evident as the children play with a toy house and small-world characters. Children use their imagination as they place furniture in the rooms. They put the characters in toy cars and pretend to go on a journey.

Children behave well and are eager to learn. They become excited about painting caterpillars. Children use their small-muscle skills and develop their creativity well. Older children hold their paintbrush with control and draw lines and circular shapes. Younger children explore the paint and make swirls and dots. The childminder talks to the children about the story they have been listening to and introduces new words, such as 'cocoon', to widen their vocabulary. Older children retell the story and talk about the caterpillar eating lots of food. Younger children try and say 'butterfly' as the childminder asks, 'What does the caterpillar turn into?'

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

- The childminder knows the children in her care well. She observes children as they play and carries out accurate assessments of their learning. The childminder uses the assessments well and plans for the children's future learning. This is evident as she promotes children's language skills. She makes eye contact with younger children and repeats words clearly so that they can hear the words correctly. The childminder asks older children questions to encourage them to think. For example, she asks, 'Where can you put this jigsaw piece?' The childminder includes reading stories and singing to help the children learn new vocabulary.
- Younger children try to join in activities with older children who are counting and learning to recognise numbers. The younger children sit and observe what the older children are doing and try to take part. However, the childminder does not adapt this activity to include the younger children, who find it too challenging, and they become disinterested and walk away.
- The childminder works effectively with parents to ensure that children's care and learning needs are continually met. She sends photos to their parents and talks to them about their children's achievements. This means that parents know what the children are learning and can help them at home. Parents comment that they are happy with the childminder's service and describe her as 'amazing', 'positive' and 'bubbly'.
- Children have many opportunities to explore in the local area. They make

regular visits to the library and borrow various books, such as 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. This helps to develop children's love of books. Children visit parks to use larger outside equipment to help develop their core muscles and physical skills. The childminder takes the children to country parks, where they explore the woodlands, feed ducks and learn about nature.

- The childminder supports the children to wash their hands and reminds them to remove all the dirt. Children know to dry their hands afterwards and are proud to show off their clean fingers. However, sometimes, the childminder carries out tasks for older children that they could do for themselves, such as putting aprons on and fetching resources that they need.
- The childminder promotes positive behaviour well. She is a good role model and explains the consequences of certain actions to children, such as putting things in their mouth. The childminder encourages the children to share and take turns in their play. For example, during a throwing game, the older children say 'your turn' when it is the younger children's turn.
- The childminder reflects on her practice and demonstrates a good capacity to improve. She attends mandatory training to keep her knowledge up to date. In addition, she also accesses webinars to provide her with new ideas. For example, she recently watched a webinar on children learning through play. The childminder now follows children's interests and lets them take the lead in their play.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a secure understanding of her responsibility to protect children. She knows the procedures to follow if she has concerns about a child's welfare or if an allegation is made against herself or a member of her household. The childminder updates her knowledge and understanding of child protection. She attends regular training, which includes subjects such as protecting children from extremist views. The childminder has a range of hygiene measures in place to ensure the health and safety of the children attending. She ensures that the premises are safe and secure and identifies and removes any potential hazards to ensure the children's safety.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- adapt learning opportunities so that younger children can participate fully and remain engaged in learning
- provide more encouragement for older children to manage tasks for themselves, to increase their independence.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2628638
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	10295627
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	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2021 and lives in Loscoe, Heanor, Derbyshire. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays, a week at Christmas and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. She holds an early years qualification at level 2.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Jan Hughes

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 setting.
- The inspector had a learning walk of the childminder's provision and discussed how the childminder organises and implements her curriculum.
- The childminder took part in a joint observation with the inspector. The inspector considered the quality of education during activities and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The children spoke with the inspector and invited her into their play at appropriate times throughout the inspection. The inspector observed interactions and the conversations between the childminder and the children and considered the impact these have on children's learning.
- Parents wrote statements for the inspector so that she could consider their views.
- The inspector had a discussion with the childminder about her training and how she evaluates her practice.
- The childminder showed the inspector relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of the childminder and household members.

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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