

Childminder report

Inspection date: 22 May 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, safe and secure in the care of this nurturing childminder. They make confident decisions about what they want to play as they explore, indoors and outdoors. The childminder provides children with an exciting learning environment that is specifically tailored to engage and motivate babies and older children. Babies enjoy sharing a book with the childminder. They turn the pages, lift the flaps and laugh at the animal sounds that the childminder makes for them. Older children develop interesting story lines in their role play as they use resources that spark their imaginations. For example, they mix couscous, sand, soil and water to make 'potions'.

Children progress well and gain a secure foundation in their learning. They develop good social skills and learn to share and take turns. Older children learn to adapt their behaviour and be gentle around babies. They offer babies toys and resources to include them in their play.

Babies benefit from a well-planned curriculum that focuses on helping them to reach their development milestones in physical development. They gain confidence to take their weight on their legs as they stand close to the childminder to access activities at a standing height.

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

- The childminder has reflected well on her practice since registering as a childminder. She adapted her planning process and how she delivers the curriculum to allow for more flexibility for children to lead their play. She has further plans to extend the outdoor provision.
- The childminder is committed to her ongoing professional development and completes frequent training to extend her practice. She attends meetings with her local authority to keep updated about changes in the early years and exchanges ideas with other childminders.
- Overall, the childminder has designed an effective curriculum that is progressive and helps children to build on their knowledge and skills over time. The curriculum for children's personal, social and emotional development is particularly strong. However, the childminder has not precisely identified the progressive steps in learning to support all aspects of older children's physical development. This means that the childminder does not support them to progress fully in this aspect of their development.
- The childminder has a secure knowledge of how young children learn and adapts to their emerging interests skilfully. She succeeds in making good use of opportunities that arise to focus on what children need to learn next and to help them recall what they have learned. Older children recall previous learning about

seeds they have recently planted and talk about what they will need to grow. They enjoy practising their writing skills.

- The childminder is skilled in helping children to develop an awareness of their emotions and how to express them. Older children learn to express themselves well, such as saying what makes them happy and angry. The childminder has high expectations of children and provides them with clear boundaries. For example, children know that only the childminder can open the door.
- The childminder helps children to develop their independence. Babies access drinking water independently and feed themselves finger food. Older children persevere as they successfully peel a banana and then chop it up for their snack.
- Children progress well with their communication and language. Babies listen with interest and enjoy moving to music. Older children use descriptive language and say that the porridge oats they are playing with are spiky. The childminder provides them with alternate vocabulary choices and weaves mathematical language into their discussions.
- The childminder values the partnership working with parents and other settings. She encourages a two-way flow of information with staff at other settings that children also attend. This helps her to provide continuity in their care and learning. Parents highly recommend the childminder and say how their children are safe. They appreciate how the childminder has supported the children in their confidence following the restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Children learn about making healthy choices. The childminder shares her healthy eating policy and other food guidance with parents. She follows good hygiene routines at nappy changing times and during food preparation.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a strong knowledge of safeguarding children and takes all measures to keep children safe. She knows a wide range of signs and symptoms that may indicate a child is at risk and how to report these to the local safeguarding children's partnership. The childminder knows how to report concerns about people who work in a similar position of trust, should she have concerns about their conduct. The childminder implements effective policies relating to administering medication and managing accidents. She holds an up-to-date first-aid certificate. The childminder completes thorough checks of her home and places she visits with children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- review and enhance the physical development curriculum to identify how to extend the learning for older children in their large-muscle movements.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2629451
Local authority	Shropshire
Inspection number	10285866
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	0 to 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	16
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2021 and lives in Shifnal. She operates from Monday to Thursday, from 7.30am until 6pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 5. She receives funding to provide free early years education for three-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Anne Dyoss

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 provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure it is safe and suitable.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- Children interacted with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views of the setting 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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