

Childminder report

Inspection date: 10 April 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	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

All children make good progress from their starting points. They are eager to play and motivated to learn because the childminder provides them with a wide range of interesting play activities, inspired by their current interests and learning styles. Children excitedly mould and knead dough. They practise cutting with scissors and make marks with coloured chalk on the play tray. These activities help children to develop strength in their hands in readiness for early writing. Children follow familiar daily routines which help them to feel secure and develop a sense of belonging. They know what is expected from them because the childminder gently reminds them of the house rules throughout the day. For example, to use good manners and not to climb on the furniture. Children learn to take turns. They wait patiently to ride on wheeled toys.

Children learn about the world around them and care for living things. They are keen to help the childminder feed her wide array of animals including rabbits, chickens, quail chicks, stick insects and worms. Children benefit from meaningful interactions with the childminder to promote their communication and language skills. For example, they enthusiastically talk about the weather. The childminder introduces new words, such as 'drizzly' to describe the rain.

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

- The childminder supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) well. She works closely with parents and other professionals, such as the local authority inclusion team to provide targeted support plans which meets their individual needs. Children with SEND make good progress.
- The childminder is passionate about what she does and demonstrates a positive attitude to professional development opportunities. She attends a wide range of training to support her already good knowledge and skills. The childminder is an avid reader. She uses a variety of resources to research child development and improve her practice and outcomes for children. The childminder meets regularly with other childminders to share their ideas for best practice.
- The childminder encourages children to join in with action songs and to concentrate as they play a matching game together. Although she interacts positively with all children, there are times when she does not balance her interactions well enough or offer the same levels of support to all children to enhance their learning.
- Hygiene and care practice is good. Children wash their hands at regular intervals throughout the day. The childminder is gentle as she attends to their personal care. She asks children's permissions before washing their face or changing their nappy. The childminder provides children with healthy meals and snacks throughout the day. Children are eager to help prepare pizza for lunch. They

carefully spread the sauce and help the childminder to turn the handle to grate cheese. However, she is yet to fully support children's understanding of healthy lifestyles because she does not consistently provide them with clear enough guidance as to the importance of eating a healthy diet and adopting good hygiene.

- Relationships with parents are good. The childminder invites children and parents to her home to get to know her and become familiar with the surroundings. She gathers a range of information from parents during these sessions to help her plan for children's learning from the outset. The childminder shares information with parents about children's care and progress in a range of ways. For example, she speaks with them at drop off and collection times, provides them with written assessments and uses digital messages to send photographs and details of children's achievements.
- Parents are extremely happy with the care and education their children receive. They comment on the childminder's caring nature and state their children are confident and very happy to attend.
- Children enjoy trips out with the childminder to visit places of interest in the community. They develop confidence in different social situations as they join the residents of the local care home to take part in craft and singing activities. Children develop good physical skills as they run around in the park and climb and bounce at the soft play centre. The childminder supports them to develop a love of books and stories. She often takes children to visit the library and to borrow books to read at home.

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:

- strengthen interactions with children to offer consistent levels of support and encouragement to further all children's learning
- provide children with even more experiences to help them gain a better understanding of the importance of eating a healthy diet and adopting good hygiene practice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2635983
Local authority	Worcestershire
Inspection number	10332902
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	3
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2021 and lives in Droitwich, Worcestershire. She operates all year round from 7am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for family holidays. The childminder holds qualified teacher status. She offers funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Tina Smith

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder has 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 provider.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure it is safe and suitable.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- 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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