

Childminder report

Inspection date:

18 September 2024

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

The childminder is skilled at developing a secure, warm and caring environment, where children thrive in her care. They seek her out for reassurance and confidently ask for help if they need it. This is evident as they go to the childminder for help twisting a lid off a tin of play dough. She shows them how to do this and encourages them to have a go. Children settle quickly to play with their friends. They happily make choices about what they want to play with from the expansive range of open-ended resources and stimulating activities that are available.

The childminder has high expectations of all children. She sensitively helps children to understand rules and boundaries. She reminds them of expectations in a calm and respectful way. Children are praised when they say please and thank you and they are caring towards others. They learn to be kind and helpful. As a result, they are thoughtful when playing alongside their friends, take turns and share resources. The childminder supports children to learn how to keep themselves safe. For example, she reminds them about how to safely use the real hammers in the blackberry smash activity. She models this and, as a result, children excitedly smash their blackberries onto paper to make a picture.

The childminder carefully considers her provision, purposefully keeping numbers of minded children at a low level. This means that she is able to dedicate and focus her time to the children attending. She offers an exciting and ambitious curriculum, alongside an extensive range of activities, in a vibrant environment. These are carefully and thoughtfully adapted to meet the learning and development needs of all children.

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

- The childminder gives careful thought to her ethos for her childminding practice. She has enthusiastically developed and embedded an ambitious, child-centred curriculum that offers children the highest quality of education. As a result, all children make excellent progress in all areas of their learning.
- The childminder is highly skilled at adapting her teaching to meet children's individual learning needs. She has an in-depth understanding of how young children play and explore. She shows a natural ability to tune in to children and, as a result, sets appropriate and achievable challenges. Furthermore, she comments on children's play and carefully questions them to help build on what they already know and can do.
- Standards of care and education in this childminding setting are exceptional. This is a direct result of the childminder's meaningful reflection on her journey of continual improvement. She accesses an extensive range of training, engages in research on early years ideas, and liaises with other early years practitioners in

network groups. This helps her to embed her own ethos, broaden her extensive professional knowledge and explore other ways of helping children learn.

- The childminder has an excellent and in-depth knowledge of child development and is particularly skilled in her understanding of the importance of play in early learning. The thoughtfully planned play environment and routine gives her plenty of opportunities to observe children closely. She carefully interacts with children as they play and learn. As a result, she identifies children's next steps accurately and efficiently.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. The childminder builds strong relationships with families from the outset. She creates a warm and welcoming environment for them. She finds out about what children like to do from parents as they start. This information helps her to build on what individual children already know and can do. Parents appreciate the daily information they receive about their child's development and interests.
- Children's communication and language development is of very high priority. The opportunities for the children to talk, sing, question and comment as they play or in a structured activity are wonderful. They enthusiastically engage in conversations with the childminder as she joins them in their play in the sensory space in the garden cabin. They learn new words to describe what they touch, such as soft, squashy and firm. Children are enthralled as they sing along to nursery rhymes in Spanish and English during their weekly Spanish session. The childminder supports all children to develop their speaking skills based on her knowledge of the children, through additional focused assessments, and working in close partnership with other professionals.
- Children have so many opportunities to be physically active in the garden. They develop their physical skills by climbing the equipment, kicking balls, using various wheeled toys and attempting challenging obstacle courses set out by the childminder. They begin to understand the importance of oral hygiene as they brush their teeth every day during a fun, planned teeth brushing activity.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2678610
Local authority	Dudley
Inspection number	10355105
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 4
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 2022 and lives in Dudley. She holds an appropriate qualification at level 4 and occasionally works with an assistant. The childminder operates all year round from 8am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder offers weekend and overnight care. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Juliette Freeman

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and outlined how she ensures that the space is safe and suitable for children.
- The childminder described how the early years provision is organised to support her ethos and curriculum.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the children.
- The inspector took account of parents' views.
- The inspector viewed a sample of key documentation.

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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