

Childminder report

Inspection date: 8 January 2025

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder provides a welcoming, nurturing and safe environment where children feel secure and valued. Children enjoy the freedom to choose from a wide variety of thoughtfully arranged resources in the well-organised, tidy and spacious homely setting. Children settle quickly and confidently in the childminder's care, which helps them feel comfortable and eager to engage in the activities provided.

The childminder knows each child very well and uses their interests to build on existing knowledge, ensuring that she focuses on their next steps across the areas of the curriculum. For example, when a child brings in a fireman hat from home, the childminder uses this opportunity to engage all children in learning about fire safety and the roles of people who help us. This helps children make good progress by considering their interests and stage of development.

The childminder encourages positive behaviour by modelling active listening, sharing and good manners. She reminds children that they can 'shine' in her setting, inspiring them to display these qualities. As a result, children independently support each other, such as by fetching paper towels for their friends to dry their hands and using polite manners. This demonstrates that children are developing kindness, responsibility and respect for others.

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

- The childminder is dedicated to supporting children's learning and development, regularly checking their progress. Children show great enthusiasm as they choose songs such as 'Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes' and 'The Wheels on the Bus'. They confidently sing the words, complete the actions and delight in joining in. This helps develop their communication and language skills, while also encouraging a love of music and movement.
- The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of how to support children's development through engaging activities. She thoughtfully sets up activities that encourage exploration and learning, focusing on areas such as early mathematics. However, while activities are generally well planned for older children, the childminder is sometimes less clear on how these support younger children's learning needs.
- The childminder is committed to her ongoing professional development, regularly attending a variety of courses to expand her knowledge and skills. She keeps a log of her learning, ensuring that she stays up to date and is able to apply her new knowledge to improve the care and support she provides for the children in her setting.
- The childminder is passionate about teaching the importance of healthy eating and drinking water. Children become independent in personal care, such as

putting on coats and shoes, using the toilet and washing their hands. The childminder teaches healthy habits, such as brushing teeth. For example, children use a toothbrush to clean a baby doll's teeth, learning about oral hygiene. This focus on self-care helps children to make positive choices and nurtures their growing sense of responsibility.

- The childminder asks a range of thoughtful questions throughout the day, such as 'Where do leaves come from?', to encourage children's engagement. However, at times, she moves on to the next question before children have had enough time to think and respond. This does not fully support children's emerging communication and language skills.
- Parents speak highly of the childminder and the strong partnerships she builds with them. She communicates with parents daily and shares helpful ideas, such as supporting children's toilet training. Parents appreciate the regular updates about their children's progress and activities. As a result, they feel confident in the care provided and are pleased with the progress their children make at the setting.
- The childminder offers exciting opportunities for children's physical development. She takes them on walks along the canal and to the park, the farm and soft-play centres. Children use a climbing frame, balance bikes and sit-on rides. These activities develop gross motor skills, encourage exploration and help children build confidence in their physical abilities.

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:

- build on the planning of adult-led activities to ensure clear learning outcomes for all children
- extend questioning techniques so that children have enough time to think and respond, helping to further support their communication and language skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	268377
Local authority	Warwickshire
Inspection number	10366223
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	2 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	7 February 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1992 and lives in Nuneaton, Warwickshire. She operates all year round, from 7am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. She offers government funded places for children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Deborah Croft

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure they are safe and suitable.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children and evaluated the quality of education being provided.
- The childminder and inspector had discussions at appropriate times during the inspection.
- 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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