

Childminder report

Inspection date:

5 September 2025

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

Children thrive in this warm, welcoming and highly inclusive setting. They demonstrate that they are happy, motivated and deeply engaged. Children are excited to learn and play. The childminder creates meaningful experiences that spark curiosity and joy. Children make tremendous progress from their starting points. The childminder meticulously sequences children's learning and plans ambitious next steps for each child so that they can build on what they already know and can do. Children feel confident to share their own interests from home, which the childminder skilfully extends into rich learning opportunities. For example, when a child discovered a butterfly, this inspired activities exploring the life cycle of butterflies, linked to the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'.

Children form secure attachments and quickly settle. The childminder works closely with families from the start. Every child is treated as an individual, and their needs, routines and personalities are valued and celebrated. This helps children feel safe, respected and eager to join in.

Children's emotional well-being is at the heart of the setting. They are supported to recognise and manage their feelings. Children develop impressive resilience, confidence and a strong sense of self. They know how to behave kindly and considerately, helping one another and working together with enthusiasm. For instance, while playing with blocks, the childminder encourages children to ask each other to share, allowing them to build together. Children are exceptionally well prepared for the next stage in their learning journey.

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

- The childminder provides an ambitious curriculum that is exceptionally well planned and implemented. It is designed to spark curiosity, build children's knowledge and ensure that they are fully prepared for their next stage of education. She uses her expert understanding of child development to provide experiences that are precisely matched to children's current stage of development. Her highly effective interactions consistently extend children's learning and thinking.
- Children benefit from a wide range of meaningful experiences in the setting and in the wider community. Visits to the local nature reserve provide rich opportunities for children to observe seasonal changes, understand the effects of weather and explore wildlife. These experiences support children to develop a strong understanding of the world in which they live.
- The childminder places a strong emphasis on communication and language. She creates a language-rich environment where children are encouraged to express themselves confidently. She models clear speech, repeats words back to children

and builds vocabulary through purposeful conversation. Her targeted support, including for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, ensures that all children make rapid progress in their communication skills. The childminder takes children on regular trips to the library to foster a love of books. Children listen attentively during story sessions and show deep engagement as the childminder uses props and skilful questioning to bring stories to life.

- Children's physical development is promoted exceptionally well. The childminder provides highly effective opportunities for children to develop their small-muscle skills. For example, as children explore dough, she models techniques such as pulling, squeezing, rolling and shaping. Younger children watch carefully and copy her actions with growing confidence. The childminder offers purposeful encouragement and praise, which motivates children to persist and helps them take pride in their achievements. Children develop excellent coordination, control and self-esteem in readiness for early writing.
- Children are highly motivated and demonstrate excellent attitudes to learning. They ask thoughtful questions, engage in sustained conversations and show a fascination for new ideas. For example, children discuss healthy eating during mealtimes, developing a secure understanding of why nutritious foods are important. They also learn about good oral hygiene and why brushing teeth regularly is important. The childminder introduces new vocabulary, such as 'cavities', as children practise brushing model teeth. This enables children to develop secure knowledge, rich language and positive habits that support their long-term health and well-being.
- The childminder's commitment to professional development is exemplary. She regularly evaluates her practice and seeks training opportunities that strengthen her already excellent provision. This reflective approach ensures that the setting continually improves, resulting in consistently high-quality outcomes for children.
- Partnerships with parents are exceptionally strong. The childminder shares detailed information about children's progress and works closely with families to plan individual next steps. She provides resources and guidance that enable parents to extend learning at home. Parents speak highly of the care and education their children receive and value the tailored support offered.

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	2734218
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	10399748
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 10
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 2023 and lives in Leicestershire. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lowri Bartlett

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how she ensures that they are safe and suitable.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises her early years provision, including the aims and rationale for her early years foundation stage curriculum.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about the children's learning and development, with a particular focus on communication and language.
- The children spoke to the inspector about what they enjoy doing while with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this is having on the children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the children.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the curriculum has been implemented and the impact that this has had on the 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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