

Childminder report

Inspection date: 5 February 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

Children are happy, confident and settled in this warm 'home from home'. The childminder provides a welcoming, friendly and nurturing environment in which children are developing a love of learning. They are engaged in stories, songs and rhymes that support their communication and language development. Children participate eagerly in small-group activities to develop their fine motor skills and broaden their knowledge. They use tweezers to sort coloured animals into bowls, and they show high levels of engagement and well-being. Children play with magnets, taking turns to complete challenges set by the childminder. They learn new words and gain an understanding of shape and colour.

Children enjoy going to the local park and meeting up with children from other settings. They play and explore, and have good opportunities to develop physically. Parents say they receive a warm and friendly smile at drop-off and pick-up, and appreciate the regular communication they receive. They know their children enjoy the activities and outings the childminder provides, and that their children are making good progress. Children talk about their life and home, and they are free to be themselves. The childminder embraces children's personalities and allows them to express themselves. Children gain a good sense of who they are in the world and what makes them unique. They enjoy participating in interactive reading and songs.

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

- Overall, the childminder provides a well-considered and sequenced curriculum that is unique to the children attending. She provides a range of well-organised resources around children's interests that support their learning. This is enhanced through good quality interactions that are informed by knowing the children and their personalities.
- Children learn about the importance of staying healthy. The childminder ensures that children know about the importance of eating healthy food, physical activity and how to keep themselves safe. Children are regularly out and about in the community. They visit the local school, nature reserves and other places of interest. The childminder uses these outings to encourage children to manage appropriate risk, for example learning about road safety.
- The childminder has good overall knowledge of child development, which she has gathered over more than 30 years in the profession. She reflects well on what children can do and what they need to learn next. In the main, the childminder uses this knowledge to plan and deliver effective activities that are engaging to the children in her care. Children are keen to participate in learning and show what they know and can do.
- Children have lots of opportunities to learn about numeracy. They enjoy taking

part in focused activities with flash cards to support both their numeracy skills and their communication and language. Children are enthusiastic to participate and wait their turn to count the items with their fingers. They listen and pay attention well and are exposed to new vocabulary. Children learn about the meaning of number, supported by the childminder's direct instruction and demonstration. However, sometimes, these activities are not always differentiated effectively to support the different abilities of the children to support their good progress further.

- The childminder focuses on forming positive relationships with the children in her care. She knows the children well and responds effectively and quickly to meet their needs. The childminder sets effective and consistent boundaries and expectations for children, so they know what is expected of them. As such, children show positive behaviours. They are very kind and polite to each other and enjoy sharing activities and resources, such as playing carefully with toy babies in role play.
- Parents are very complimentary about the childminder. They mention how their children are happy, safe and well cared for by the childminder. Parents describe the childminder as very warm and friendly, and they are confident to ask for extra support if needed. Parents comment how the childminder provides a caring and loving home from home. Parents describe how the childminder involves them in their children's learning, and that they can see their children are making good progress.

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:

- ensure that planned activities are differentiated effectively to meet the development needs of all children participating.

Setting details

Unique reference number	321311
Local authority	York
Inspection number	10367489
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	12
Date of previous inspection	11 February 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1997 and lives in Strensall, in York. She operates from Tuesday to Thursday, 7.30am to 6pm, all year round, with the exception of bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides government funded places for childcare. She has a relevant early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Rob Yates

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector around the premises, indoors and outdoors, and discussed how she ensures that they are safe and suitable.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about the children's learning and development.
- The inspector spoke to the children as they played.
- Parents shared their views of the childminder's setting through their written feedback.
- The childminder and the inspector reflected on the effectiveness of specific activities.

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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