

Childminder report

Inspection date:

17 September 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

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder offers a warm and relaxed environment. She works very closely with parents so that she gets to know children well. This supports children to settle and develop close bonds with her. Children are happy and demonstrate that they feel confident in her care. For example, older children welcome visitors and chat about their toys while younger children smile from the safety of the childminder's lap. Children's behaviour is good. The childminder praises children for acts of kindness to each other. They learn to take turns and share. The childminder gently reinforces her behavioural expectations.

The childminder provides an environment that is inviting, and children are eager to explore. They benefit from first-hand learning experiences such as observing the life cycle of butterflies and releasing them into the childminder's garden. The childminder encourages children to recall their learning, and they confidently explain to visitors what happened to the caterpillars.

Children have regular opportunities to engage with and explore the local area. They visit the local beach, where they hunt for shells and stones or dig and build sandcastles. Children socialise with others at playgroups and enjoy taking the bus to visit the library. This helps children to gain an awareness of the world around them and to be physically active.

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

- The childminder completes regular assessments to monitor children's learning and development. She uses this information to plan activities to build on children's current stage of learning. However, on some occasions when children clearly demonstrate secure knowledge, the childminder misses opportunities to offer them further challenge to really understand if they are ready to test what it is they know and can do.
- The childminder models language well. She comments on children's actions, asks them questions and repeats back children's spoken words to ensure they hear the correct pronunciation. Children learn a variety of songs and action rhymes. Older children sing along, and younger children join in with movements and actions. The childminder introduces musical instruments for them to play along to the songs, which the children do with enthusiasm.
- The childminder promotes a love of books. Children snuggle to the childminder as they look through picture books. They point at objects in the illustrations, and the childminder discusses with children what they can see. Children visit the library with the childminder and have access to a wide range of different reading materials. They listen intently as she reads. She asks children questions about the stories to determine their learning.

- Children develop some mathematical knowledge and display problem-solving skills. They enjoy sorting coloured lids and fitting them into shaped inset boards. However, the childminder does not always make full use of opportunities to introduce counting or shape and measure recognition during children's play to support their mathematical development further.
- The childminder encourages children to do things for themselves. For instance, they manage their own personal care and wash their hands before eating. Children independently dress for outdoor play, and the childminder encourages children to help tidy away toys when they have finished playing with them.
- Parents speak highly of the childminder, describing her as part of the family. The childminder develops strong and supportive partnerships with parents. She provides valuable advice on how to support children's learning at home. The childminder maintains effective communication with parents to keep them informed about the various activities and experiences she provides.
- The childminder is committed to her role in giving children the best start in life. She has a positive attitude to her continuous professional development. In addition to completing mandatory training, she sources training to build on her practice and improve her provision. This supports all children in her care to make 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:

- consider how to offer children further challenge when they show competence in completing tasks to allow them to continue to develop their knowledge further
- provide children with frequent opportunities to count and explore shapes and measures in their play to support the development of their mathematical understanding.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY253866
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	10359834
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	9
Date of previous inspection	10 December 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2003 and lives in Heacham. She operates all year round, from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Louise Harris

Inspection activities

- The childminder talked to the inspector about what she wants children to learn and how the curriculum is planned.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this had on children's learning.
- Parents provided written feedback during the inspection. The inspector took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder to assess the impact of teaching on children's learning.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2024