

Childminder report

Inspection date: 27 July 2022

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	Outstanding
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy and content at this homely, welcoming setting. They immediately settle and become quickly engaged. The childminder skilfully matches the resources and activities to support the children's learning and interests. Children joyfully use their small-motor skills to draw around each other's bodies. They giggle as the pen tickles their toes. The childminder encourages children to look at the imprint they have created. She uses mathematical language to encourage their thinking as she asks them to estimate if the next child will be 'bigger' or 'smaller'.

The childminder enables children to lead their own play and learning. Children explore the properties of paint. They mix paint in pallets and guess what colour they will make by adding a different-colour paint. The childminder supports their thinking as they consider the possible result. Children develop their small-motor skills as they use a variety of brushes to make marks on paper. They experiment further as they paint their hands, feet and arms. They use descriptive language to tell the childminder how it feels on their body. Children benefit from a secure, safe outdoor area. They access a range of resources to help promote their physical development. For example, they play with wheeled toys and balls, which help to develop their hand-to-eye coordination. Children enjoy using their creativity to discover how to make different sounds with instruments. They excitedly bang tubes together and use sticks on chimes to create musical sounds.

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

- The childminder is highly qualified. She is dedicated and professional in her approach. She ensures that she continually assesses her professional development and attends regular training courses. The additional knowledge she gains allows her to enhance the quality of education for the children in her care.
- The childminder knows where the children are in terms of development. She uses what she knows about the children to provide a wide breadth of educational opportunities. However, at times, she is not always clear on her knowledge of the curriculum.
- Children behave well. They show consideration for others and are polite to visitors. The childminder has high aspirations for the children. They listen attentively when she gives direction. Children are curious learners and have positive attitudes to the experiences they receive. For example, children say 'this is really actually really fun' as they play.
- Parents speak highly of the care that their children receive. They comment that the childminder feels 'part of the family'. Parents are impressed with the daily email updates they receive regarding their children's progress and experiences. They feel that the childminder is both professional and reliable.

- Children have good independence skills. They use safety knives to confidently prepare their bananas at lunchtime. Children confidently manage their own self-care as they wash their hands, visit the toilet independently, and pour their own drinks.
- Children develop their literacy skills as they eagerly explore the story books the childminder provides. They listen to familiar stories and talk about what is going to happen next. The childminder provides a wide range of information books. Children learn about what makes them unique, and that all families are diverse.
- The childminder provides opportunities for children to explore the wider community. Children especially enjoy visiting a local farm and seeing the baby animals. The childminder builds on the children's interest as she uses this experience to plan further activities.
- The childminder promotes healthy lifestyles. She talks to the children about what they eat, and encourages them to make healthy choices in their diet. This helps children to understand how to support their own good health. Children help themselves to fresh drinking water throughout the day. They benefit from visits to local parks, and go on regular walks and enjoy partaking in forest trails. The childminder helps children to understand how physical activity supports a healthy lifestyle.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder understands how to keep children safe in her care. She develops her child protection knowledge through attending regular training. She knows the procedures to follow if she has concerns about a child in her care. The childminder is confident in her knowledge regarding how to keep children safe from the potential risks of radicalisation. She understands the importance of keeping children safe online and shares this information with parents. There are robust risk assessments in place that further protect children from harm. The childminder is qualified in paediatric first aid, and is able to respond quickly to accidents.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To further improve the quality of the early years provision, the provider should:

- enhance the curriculum to consistently build on children's knowledge and skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY256700
Local authority	North Northamptonshire
Inspection number	10138486
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	3 to 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	21 November 2014

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2003. She operates all year round from 7.45am until 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder receives funding for three- and four-year-old children. She holds early years professional status and is a member of the local childminding association.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Stephanie North

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provision.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure they are safe and suitable.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- 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 was having on children's learning.
- The childminder and inspector discussed how the curriculum had been implemented and the impact that this had on 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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