

# Childminder report

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Inspection date:

13 May 2021

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**Overall effectiveness**

**Good**

The quality of education

**Good**

Behaviour and attitudes

**Good**

Personal development

**Good**

Leadership and management

**Good**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Requires improvement

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

### The provision is good

Children are safe and well cared for in this nurturing environment. They build strong relationships with the childminder and turn to her for comfort and reassurance if they are unsettled or upset. The childminder liaises effectively with parents to find out about preferences, establish routines and ensure that children's individual needs are met.

During the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, the childminder's setting remained open, offering childcare to the children whose parents are key workers. This often meant caring for children for longer periods of time to enable parents to work when and where they were needed. The childminder recognises that children have missed out on social interactions and the usual opportunities to make new friends at local groups. Now that some restrictions are being lifted, she has adapted her routines. Children visit the local park and mix with others while enjoying the fresh air and exercise.

The childminder has found that it has been a challenge to communicate with settings that children also attend due to changes in collection procedures. To overcome this, she has introduced a daily diary to exchange information. The parents have appreciated this and comment about how it helps to provide consistent and complementary experiences for children while with the childminder, at settings or at home.

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

- The childminder has not maintained a valid paediatric first-aid qualification. Her certificate expired while restrictions were in place and she was not able to attend face-to-face training. That said, she has a place booked on the first available course in the coming weeks. In the meantime, she has refreshed her knowledge and understanding of how to deal with accidents. The childminder is confident that she is able to respond to emergencies in an appropriate, safe and timely manner, which minimises the risk to children.
- The childminder has made significant improvements since the last inspection, which have had a positive impact on her provision for children. She has attended training and acted on advice and guidance from other childcare professionals. She has developed her teaching skills and she provides more purposeful experiences to support children's learning and development.
- Children are valued and recognised as unique individuals. The childminder understands what each child already knows and can do and identifies what she can do to help them make progress. She has a flexible approach and adapts experiences to follow children's interests and provide a child-led environment.
- Children are mostly settled and confident in the childminder's care. They

respond well to plenty of attention and praise, which motivates them and inspires their can-do attitude. Children join in, clapping and smiling at one another's achievements, which encourages them to have another go.

- Some children respond to simple questions and express themselves with actions and sounds. The childminder acknowledges that these children are quieter and less confident to speak than others. She is developing ways to encourage new vocabulary and to help them enhance their communication skills.
- Children are invited to choose a story from the book box. They select one of their favourites and cuddle up to the childminder and are fully engaged as she reads the story.
- Some children have good understanding and make thoughtful connections as they play. For example, they recognise and point out the sun on a puzzle piece. When asked if the sun is out today, they look out the window and say, 'no, it's raining'. During another activity, they laugh as the childminder uses different voices and pretends to be a shop keeper. Children use their knowledge of real situations to buy items from the shop. They pay using a card which they put in a slot on the play till and press the buttons to make a payment.
- The childminder is a positive role model. Children's behaviour is good and any minor disagreements are dealt with sensitively and quickly. Children learn how to manage their emotions and are developing an awareness of others and an increasing sense of right and wrong.
- The childminder helps children to develop good self-care skills, such as promoting regular handwashing and sitting up to the table to eat. However, she is less successful at helping children to make healthy food choices at mealtimes and raising their awareness of the benefits of a varied diet.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder knows what to do if she is worried about a child's safety or welfare. She has clear policies and procedures to follow, which include relevant details of agencies to contact. The childminder has considered the impact of not having a valid first-aid qualification and ensures that the environment is safe and secure. She uses appropriate equipment, such as car seats and pushchairs, and makes sure that she parks close to the school at collection times to avoid walking too far with young children. The childminder conducts risk assessments of her home and explains to children about tidying away toys to minimise trip hazards.

## What does the setting need to do to improve?

**To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:**

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
|  | <b>Due date</b> |
|--|-----------------|

|                                                                                                    |            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| ensure full paediatric first-aid training is renewed and a relevant certificate is made available. | 25/06/2021 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

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

- provide further opportunities for children to enhance their vocabulary and communication skills
- help children to make healthier food choices at mealtimes and develop a greater understanding of the benefits of eating a more varied diet.

## Setting details

|                                                    |                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>                     | EY317320                                                                          |
| <b>Local authority</b>                             | Solihull                                                                          |
| <b>Inspection number</b>                           | 10126312                                                                          |
| <b>Type of provision</b>                           | Childminder                                                                       |
| <b>Registers</b>                                   | Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register |
| <b>Day care type</b>                               | Childminder                                                                       |
| <b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b> | 1 to 7                                                                            |
| <b>Total number of places</b>                      | 6                                                                                 |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>                  | 5                                                                                 |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b>                 | 20 September 2019                                                                 |

## Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2005 and lives in Solihull, West Midlands. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant qualification at Level 3.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Lucy Showell

### 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 setting.
- A learning walk was completed with the childminder to understand how the setting operates and how the curriculum is organised.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of adults living or working on the premises.
- The inspector took account of parents' views.

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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