

Childminder report

Inspection date:

10 November 2023

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children love the time they spend in this caring and nurturing childcare setting. They benefit from a welcoming and safe environment where they can relax, play and learn. The childminder places high priority on supporting children's emotional and mental well-being. Children develop close relationships with the childminder and enjoy the positive interactions they share with her. This helps them to feel confident and self-assured when in the childminder's care.

Children have an extremely positive attitude to their learning. The enthusiastic childminder, through her well-planned curriculum and wealth of experience, plans exceptional opportunities to support children's development. For example, children learn about sustainability, such as composting food waste to help look after the environment. Children are confident and engage with their chosen learning activities with a real drive to succeed with their efforts. This supports children to thrive and make excellent progress in their learning.

Children behave exceptionally well. The childminder is skilled in helping children to understand what is expected of them. She is a positive role model and has high expectations for the children's behaviour and conduct. Consequently, children listen and follow the routines of the setting well. For example, during tidy-up time children help by putting their toy cars away. The childminder is quick to offer them praise. This supports children's self-esteem and confidence.

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

- The childminder has a clear vision for her curriculum and supports children's learning exceptionally well. She expertly gathers information about children's starting points from parents. The childminder uses this information together with her own assessments to ensure that next steps in learning are unique and tailored specifically to each child. This provides children with precise opportunities to develop their skills and raise their aspirations for future learning.
- Children have daily access to a beautifully arranged outdoor area that provides them with a wealth of opportunities to explore and learn. For example, children enjoy learning about plants, creatures and vegetables in the purpose-built nature walk. They investigate the pond and learn about the life cycle of a frog through exciting activities that the childminder plans. In addition, the childminder provides children with significant opportunities to develop their love of animals. For example, children learn about and help to care for the childminder's tortoises, chickens and pet dog.
- The childminder places a strong emphasis on encouraging children's independence. Children choose what they want to play and move freely between activities throughout the day. They know the routines to wash their hands after

using the toilet and before they eat. The childminder gives children plenty of time to attempt tasks independently before helping. For example, children attempt to put their own shoes on in preparation for outdoor activities. Children are well supported for the next stage of their learning, such as nursery or school.

- The childminder supports children's communication skills extremely well. Children's confidence and independence flourish, as the childminder values everything that children say. The childminder exposes the children to lots of new vocabulary. For example, during snack time, she introduces new words such as 'hydration' and explains its meaning to the children. Children later use these words as they play, showing that they have remembered and can use the new words correctly.
- The highly skilled and experienced childminder is an extremely reflective practitioner. She carefully evaluates her practice to maintain the excellent quality of teaching and learning. The childminder is passionate about and dedicated to her own professional development. For example, she has recently completed early literacy training to ensure consistency in how children are taught. This keeps the childminder's skills and knowledge up to date and provides children with a purposeful environment that supports them well.
- Partnership with parents is excellent. Parents comment that they have seen outstanding developmental progress in their children since they started. The childminder keeps parents well informed about their children's achievements and next steps, through regular discussions and photos. The childminder places a high priority on supporting children's ongoing learning at home. For example, children take home tomato plants to care for and grow.
- Children enjoy a range of outings to a variety of different places, including rescue centres, farms and woodland areas. The childminder places a strong emphasis on giving children real-life experiences. For example, when children have an interest in firefighters, the childminder organises visits to the local fire station. This helps them gain a greater awareness of nature, the world around them and the community in which they live.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an excellent understanding of how to keep children safe. She can recognise the signs and symptoms when a child may be at risk of harm. The childminder confidently describes what she would do if she had a safeguarding concern about any of the children in her care. She knows what to do if an allegation is made against herself or a household member. The childminder carries out the appropriate risk assessments of her premises and provides a safe and secure place for children to play and learn. She understands the importance of keeping her own knowledge of safeguarding up to date and attends regular training to support this.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY349301
Local authority	North Lincolnshire
Inspection number	10308218
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 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	12
Date of previous inspection	22 March 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Messingham, Scunthorpe. She operates all year round, from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides early years funded education for three-year-old children and holds a level 2 qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jennifer Cowton

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.
- The childminder showed the inspector around areas of her home used by children and explained how she supports children's learning and development.
- A joint observation was carried out by the childminder and the inspector.
- The inspector observed the quality of the interactions between the childminder and the children and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views with the inspector through written feedback.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request, including evidence of paediatric first-aid training and public liability insurance.

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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