

Childminder report

Inspection date:

5 August 2025

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive in this exceptional setting. The childminder works in a highly effective partnership with parents to ensure she meets children's individual needs right from the start. The childminder uses her thoughtful observations of children to reflect their motivations and learning preferences. Children express delight and joy on seeing the childminder, and they turn to her for comfort and reassurance when they feel unsure of visitors. Children are secure in their knowledge of the daily routine. They develop as independent learners who confidently explore the well-resourced and clearly organised learning environment. Children understand the childminder's expectations of them, and they consistently respond positively to her. Children successfully take turns, supported by the childminder's creative use of photos to extend their understanding of cooperating with others.

The childminder knows when to involve herself in children's play to extend learning opportunities. Through her sensitive support, children build resilience and develop confidence in their abilities. The childminder talks to children calmly and respectfully, consistently modelling kindness and consideration. Consequently, children show respect for others. Children benefit from spending time with the childminder and their peers, exploring their local community and meeting with others. As a result of these varied experiences, children develop as social beings who confidently build strong relationships with their peers.

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

- The experienced childminder has constructed an ambitious and well-sequenced curriculum. She focuses intently on children's individual developmental needs and works in strong partnership with parents to agree on children's next steps. The childminder skilfully involves parents at every step of their child's learning. The childminder shares daily feedback with them, in addition to her regular assessments of the progress children are making.
- The childminder is highly committed to her professional development. She is proactive, attending many useful training sessions. This means that she understands changes to legislation or guidance. The childminder uses newly acquired knowledge to drive improvement across her setting. For example, she has recently planned and promoted oral health week to meet the standards for accreditation.
- The childminder consistently promotes children's independence from an early age. For example, children take responsibility for simple tasks, such as collecting their water bottles when thirsty or attempting to put their shoes on before going outdoors. Children take turns preparing snacks. Well-embedded routines, such as handwashing before eating, further support children's development of essential self-care and life skills.

- Children thoroughly enjoy playing outside in the childminder's garden. They develop their physical skills as they get involved in planting and growing. Children practise their hand-eye coordination and develop the large muscles in their shoulders, elbows and wrists as they use chalk on the wall. This lays firm foundations for children's early literacy skills.
- Children confidently lead and invite the childminder into their games. Together, they engage in pretend play. The childminder ensures that children hear the correct pronunciation of words in the context of their play. She takes every opportunity to extend children's vocabulary, which helps them to make connections between words and actions. Her skilful expertise supports children to develop as exceptional communicators. Even very young children use complex sentences to engage in play and make their wishes and feelings known.
- Children's behaviour is exceptional. The childminder has high expectations of all children. She offers simple explanations to support children's understanding of how to keep themselves safe. For example, children know that they should remain seated while eating.
- The childminder demonstrates the utmost respect for children. She prioritises their physical and emotional well-being. This builds children's self-confidence and helps them feel prepared for the next stage of their educational journey. The childminder actively seeks the views of children, and she skilfully uses age-appropriate methods to capture their voice. She then weaves their thoughts and ideas into her ever-evolving provision.
- The childminder develops excellent partnerships with external agencies and other professionals. Her highly effective communication ensures that children receive exactly the support they need. This helps them to make the best possible progress across all seven areas of learning.
- Children develop a love of books and stories. The childminder skilfully engages children in storytelling as she extends their learning further through the creative use of visual aids. Children snuggle closely in to enjoy the book and enthusiastically join in with familiar words and phrases. The childminder consistently connects children's learning through recall of their lived experiences, such as trips to the woods. This makes learning highly purposeful to every child.
- Partnerships with parents and carers are a particular strength. The childminder is committed to respecting parents as their child's first educator, and she carefully listens and responds to their wishes. Parents comment on the 'rich and varied' experiences that children get involved in and the 'exceptional progress' they make in the care of this excellent childminder.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY357707
Local authority	Warwickshire
Inspection number	10398745
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	0 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Date of previous inspection	7 November 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in the Wood End area of Atherstone in Warwickshire. She operates Monday to Friday, from 7.30 to 6pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She provides funded places for children aged from nine months to four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lisa Gadsby

Inspection activities

- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises her early years provision, including the aims and rationale for the early years foundation stage curriculum.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about children's learning and development, with a particular focus on communication and language.
- Children spoke to the inspector about what they enjoy doing while with the childminder.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- 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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