

Childminder report

Inspection date: 5 May 2022

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 thrive in this exceptionally nurturing environment. Their happiness and learning is of utmost importance to the childminder. Children have a thirst for learning. They become absorbed in activities that build on their learning needs and interests. Children show pride in their achievements. They look at photos and enthusiastically recall past events, such as how they visited and learned about the unique characteristics of alpacas. Children engage in a wide range of activities that help them to learn about different cultures and traditions.

Children's understanding of the natural world is promoted well. They learn about reptiles and how to care for them as they bathe the childminder's pet tortoise. Children learn the importance of flowers and how they attract bees, butterflies and other pollinators. They plant seeds and discuss how they will care for them so that they grow.

Children know the importance of hygiene as they routinely wash their hands, for instance after handling the childminder's pet tortoise. They show an excellent understanding of oral hygiene for their young age. Children have plenty of opportunities to be active indoors and outdoors.

Children's behaviour is impeccable. They are polite and extremely kind to each other. They listen and respond to the views and ideas of their friends during their play. Children demonstrate excellent independence skills. They decide what they want to play with, how and where. They are very well prepared for their future learning, including starting school.

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

- The childminder is kind, friendly and tremendously fun. She helps to ensure that children are emotionally and socially prepared for their move on to school. The childminder's outstanding commitment to the children in her care continued throughout the periods of lockdown during the COVID-19 pandemic. She supported the children by providing activities linked to their next steps and continued to monitor their progress. She visited the children and families on their driveways and organised weekly video call sessions to keep in touch. This helped to support a smooth and seamless transition back into her provision.
- The quality of the childminder's teaching is outstanding. The rich curriculum she provides is tailored to children's precise learning and developmental needs. The childminder creates an exemplary learning environment where she offers an extensive range of stimulating and challenging opportunities to support high levels of achievement. She has a comprehensive understanding of how children learn. Rigorous and accurate systems are in place to monitor children's progress

to help them to achieve to their fullest potential.

- The childminder has exceptionally high expectations for every child. Children show high levels of respect. For example, they tidy away their toys when asked. Older children gently guide younger peers, with a hand on their back, as they negotiate the step from the garden.
- The childminder strives to continually develop her practice to provide a superior learning experience for the children in her care. She is passionate about her ongoing professional development. The childminder undertakes a variety of training courses, reads literature and carries out online research to update her knowledge and refresh her skills. She supports other childminders as she shares her knowledge, good practice and inspiring ideas. For example, she has set up a shared story sack scheme for local childminders to help them to promote children's communication and language skills.
- Parents are extremely positive about the care and education the childminder provides. They say they receive excellent support to extend their children's learning at home. Parents comment on how invaluable the childminder's support is, especially when children need additional help. The childminder routinely shares information about children's learning with other people who care for them, to provide high levels of consistency.
- The childminder is a superb role model. She plays alongside children, engaging them in meaningful discussions. She seizes every opportunity to introduce new words into children's play. Children are articulate and use a broad range of vocabulary in their communication and language. They develop a love of books.
- Children's days are filled with exciting activities and outings where children meet and socialise with others. They explore their local environment and visit different places of interest. For example, they relish their visits to the woods, where they design and build dens, re-enact favourite stories and carry out bark rubbing on the trees. They have plenty of opportunities to develop excellent physical skills. They balance, learn to catch, and negotiate space around them.
- Children learn about people and families beyond their own experiences. For example, they share facilities such as the library at the local school for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an in-depth understanding of how to safeguard children in her care. She has a very secure knowledge of the possible signs of abuse and neglect. The childminder knows when and where to refer any concerns she may have. She carries out risk assessments in her home and on outings. The childminder is meticulous about carrying out checks on her premises, equipment and resources. This helps to ensure that children are cared for in an extremely safe and secure environment. Children are supervised exceptionally well at all times. She teaches children how to keep themselves safe, including when using the internet.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY373522
Local authority	Worcestershire
Inspection number	10116139
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	5
Date of previous inspection	20 March 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Bromsgrove, Worcester. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Karen Laycock

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 and the inspector took part in a joint evaluation of children engaged in activities. They discussed what the learning intention was and the quality of teaching and learning that they observed.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector, as part of the learning walk, about the intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children during the inspection and took account of their views. She also took account of the written views of parents provided to her by the childminder.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and learning being provided and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation, including evidence of the suitability of those living or working with children on the premises.

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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