

Childminder report

Inspection date: 29 November 2023

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

The provision is good

The childminder provides a warm and welcoming environment for children, who enjoy attending. When children arrive, they rush in to see the childminder and greet their friends. The childminder has built loving relationships with children and their families. This helps children settle quickly into her care. The childminder regularly seeks information about children from their parents and uses this to plan exciting learning experiences. She finds out what children already know, what they can already do and what interests them. For example, when a child shows a specific interest in cars, she plans activities to extend the child's mathematical understanding using toy cars and helping to build a track from blocks. This gives parents confidence that their children are making good progress.

The childminder helps children to understand her expectations for behaviour from a very young age. Children are polite to one another and conscious of one another's feelings. When minor disagreements happen, the childminder supports children sensitively to resolve these. The childminder encourages children to solve problems together and guides them to find solutions for themselves, such as matching pens with the right coloured lid. She offers lots of praise and encouragement, which helps raise the children's self-esteem.

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

- The childminder promotes children's physical development through activities, such as dancing and climbing. She encourages all children to follow her movements as they listen to popular children's songs and rhymes. Older toddlers move skilfully around the room, avoiding obstacles and one another. They are able to independently negotiate a small-scale climbing frame safely while the childminder watches on from a short distance. Babies are supported to move a pile of books from one area to another and stack them neatly. When children find the task tricky, the childminder offers a helping hand and celebrates when children achieve their goal.
- The learning experiences the childminder plans are generally appropriate to help children make progress in their learning. She carefully considers what individual children need to learn next and ensures she keeps this in mind when teaching the children. For example, when she has identified that a child knows and recognises some basic shapes, she incorporates some more complex shapes into an activity. There are occasions however, when planned activities have so many aspects included that the children become a little overwhelmed.
- The childminder provides a language-rich environment, which supports children's speech and language development. She sings songs and rhymes with children, and they share books together at many stages of the day. She plans activities that are based around children's recollections of well-loved stories, such as

mark-making activities relating to a song about a bear. This means there is a lot of repetition of new vocabulary. When children's pronunciation or speech is unclear, the childminder repeats words back to them correctly. However, at times, the childminder can use immature language with children, such as 'drinky' and 'snacky', which hinders children learning correct vocabulary.

- Children demonstrate care and respect for one another and towards the childminder. The childminder provides cuddles and reassurance if children request these either verbally or through their body language. She creates a calm and nurturing environment for children. The childminder supports children to eat a healthy diet and she promotes good manners. Mealtimes are happy, sociable occasions with lots of chatter and laughter.
- Children are familiar with the normal flow and routine for the day. They anticipate the arrival of friends and know that it is time for lunch when the childminder tells them it is time to tidy toys away. The childminder encourages kindness and sharing. She understands that some children find this difficult at certain times of the day or in regard to specific resources. She is able to manage situations that may otherwise lead to arguments between children well.
- Parents report their satisfaction with the childminder's provision, They are particularly thankful for the attention given to help children settle and for the childminder's appropriate boundaries for children's behaviour. They attribute children's progress with speech and language to the childminder.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a sound knowledge and understanding of how to keep children safe. Her premises are free from hazards and she can appropriately identify and minimise risks. She regularly refreshes her child protection training and has a good awareness of the potential indicators of child abuse and neglect. The childminder is confident in what action to take if she had concerns about a child. She understands what procedures must be followed if an allegation were to be made about her or a household member, or if she had concerns about another professional working with children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- enhance children's speech and language by using correct vocabulary when speaking with them
- make curriculum planning more precise so that learning opportunities do not overwhelm children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY391112
Local authority	Nottinghamshire County Council
Inspection number	10312276
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 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	20
Date of previous inspection	25 April 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2009 and lives in Forest Town, Mansfield. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. The childminder is eligible to provide funding for children aged two, three and four years old.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lou Goodger

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 childminder.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how she ensures that they are safe and suitable.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises their early years provision, including the aims and rationale for their curriculum.
- Children communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- Parents shared their views about the childminder with the inspector.

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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