

Childminder report

Inspection date:

18 July 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

Met

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive in the care of the outstanding childminder. They confidently explore her meticulously planned learning environment and choose resources and activities that meet their precise learning needs. Children build strong bonds with the nurturing childminder and enjoy their time in her care. They invite her to join in their play, such as building bridges or reading stories together. The childminder encourages children to think creatively, problem solve and build important skills for their future. She is an exemplary role model for all children. She guides them and teaches them manners and children follow the setting's routines and boundaries with confidence. Children demonstrate excellent manners, including at mealtimes. They serve themselves and politely ask to leave the table when they have finished.

The childminder is attentive and intuitive to children's emerging needs, offering constant support and reassurance. She has high expectations of all children. For instance, she creates a variety of daily opportunities for children to develop their bilateral coordination. Children develop strength in their hands and fingers as they open and use glue sticks. They slice their own fruit at snack times and practise using tools to dissect the crown from a strawberry. Children put on backpacks and practise fastening the clip. The childminder offers consistent encouragement and praise to children to help them reach their goals. As a result, children feel valued and included during their time at this setting and quickly become positive and resilient learners.

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

- The childminder has expertly crafted her curriculum to incorporate a strong focus on literature. She strives to support children in developing a love of reading and awareness of print around them. The childminder teaches children the key features of books. For instance, children confidently identify the front and back covers of a book, as well as the spine. The inspirational childminder invites children to join her in reading their poem of the month. They expertly use positional language to identify where to sit on the stairs. Children beam with happiness and pride as they read their much-loved poem with the childminder and peers. This supports children to extend their vocabulary and make excellent progress with their language development.
- The childminder gets to know children extremely well. She gathers unique information about children's starting points and experiences from their parents. The childminder skilfully observes children and creates detailed next steps to support their development, which she shares monthly with parents. She creatively weaves their next steps into a variety of daily activities, which help children to make rapid progress. For instance, the childminder consistently reinforces children's recognition of the number and value of two. This helps to

embed children's understanding so that they can use it competently in their play.

- The childminder maximises opportunities for children to learn about the wider world around them by taking them on outings and visits to extend their experiences and enhance their knowledge. She uses stories to emphasise the beauty of the natural world, such as reading stories on the riverbank. The childminder actively supports children to be curious learners and investigate their ideas. For instance, when a child makes a ball of sand, they work together to test whether it will roll. The childminder expertly asks children questions to support their problem-solving and critical thinking.
- Children are immersed in opportunities to live healthy lifestyles. The imaginative childminder explores nutrient rich recipes to offer children a variety of home-made meals. Children take an active role in preparing meals with the childminder. They talk with fondness about helping to chop carrots and peppers when making pasta sauce. Children understand the importance of good hygiene. They wash their own hands before and after eating and talk about the importance of washing away germs.
- The childminder teaches children about how to care for animals. They carefully observe ladybirds from a distance so that they do not hurt them. Children visit the pet shop and help to pay for treats that they choose for cats in a rescue centre. They learn about the importance of helping others and enjoy delivery their gifts. Children collect hearts each time they demonstrate kindness and when the jar is full, they visit the local charity shop to choose new resources.
- Parents are overwhelmingly positive about the childminder and the exceptional care and education that she provides. They speak with fondness about the level of communication that they receive and how they are made aware of children's development and next steps each month. Parents explain that children thrive in the childminder's care and that her passion for reading increases children's interest in books. They are made aware of their weekly stories and poems, which helps them to reinforce language further at home. Parents are in awe of the childminder's level of knowledge in child development that she uses to create unique experiences every day for their children.
- The childminder has excellent procedures in place to gain feedback about her practice from parents. She regularly requests feedback on specific elements of her practice, such as settling-in procedures. This provides her with specific information that helps her to identify necessary adaptations. The childminder is highly ambitious and passionate about developing her knowledge and skills through additional training and further research about aspects of child development. She is committed to offering the highest level of care and education to all children that attend.

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	EY407153
Local authority	Shropshire Council
Inspection number	10407661
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	2 to 2
Total number of places	3
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	15 January 2020

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2010. She lives in Shrewsbury, Shropshire. The childminder provides care for children from Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm, all year round, except family holidays and bank holidays. She provides funded early education for eligible children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Ali Myers

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure 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 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 observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the 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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