

Childminder report

Inspection date: 25 January 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

Children enjoy the company of the childminder and her assistant and feel comfortable in their care. They welcome the adult interactions as they consistently play at children's level on the floor. Children regularly smile and laugh with both adults and approach them with ease. The childminder and her assistant know the children in their care well. They understand how children like to sleep, what foods they enjoy and always ensure that they can access drinks as and when they wish. The childminder ensures she gathers a range of information from parents about their children when they start to help them settle quickly.

Children are physically active. They squeal and laugh as they throw themselves in a ball pool. They enjoy scooping up and throwing balls to the childminder in a game of catch. Children, with the help of the assistant, build towers with building blocks. She offers good support and encouragement to children, challenging them to see how high they can make it before it falls. Children like to make sounds with musical instruments. They dance to the music along with the childminder, which makes them happy.

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

- Children are familiar with daily routines and activities. They participate well in a daily circle time, where they learn about the days of the week and months of the year. Children enjoy making observations about the weather and learn to count numbers beyond 20. They eagerly look for their picture name card to show they are present at the setting.
- Children behave appropriately for their young age. They play alongside each other well and show a caring attitude towards their peers. Any minor squabbles are sensitively handled by the childminder and her assistant. They help children to understand how to respond to others and show good manners, such as consistently reinforcing sharing and turn taking. Children receive stickers for their 'reward ladder' when they complete small tasks, such as helping to tidy away toys.
- The childminder works closely with parents to help consistently meet children's needs. She communicates daily with parents about their child's day and shares their achievements. They receive regular emails and newsletters, so that they always have a good overview of the setting and the care provided. Parents speak very positively about the childminder. They feel their children are safe and well cared for in a family environment.
- The childminder assesses what children can do and thinks about what they need to learn next. She understands how children learn and provides interesting activities to build on their knowledge. The childminder quickly identifies where children may need additional support and works closely with parents to help

them seek support and advice from other agencies. She shares children's progress and their next steps with parents, so that they can work together to meet these.

- The childminder and her assistant work closely together to provide a good service for children and their families. The childminder regularly monitors the practice of her assistant and ensures she shares any relevant news or updates regarding childcare issues or requirements. The childminder considers professional development opportunities that will have the most impact on children in her care. She has recently signed up to a child mental health course in regard to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on children.
- The childminder and her assistant have completed paediatric first-aid training online. Unfortunately, these courses do not contain the face-to-face element that Ofsted require. However, the childminder was able to discuss the action she would take in different emergency first-aid scenarios, such as assisting a child who is choking. The assistant is not left in sole charge of children.
- The childminder provides fun and interesting resources. However, on occasions children are not always given the opportunity to follow their new emerging interests when they request to play with different toys. Furthermore, the childminder does not consistently reflect on her environment to help maintain interest in resources and motivate children in their play.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder understands her duty to safeguard children in her care and help protect them from harm. The childminder and her assistant are alert to the wide range of abuse that could be prevalent in a child's life. They demonstrate a clear understanding of how to report concerns they may have about children to the appropriate authorities. The childminder knows the steps to take if an allegation is made against herself, her assistant, or a member of her family. The childminder and her assistant complete regular safeguarding training to keep their knowledge refreshed.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
ensure a relevant paediatric first-aid qualification is completed that meets the requirements.	15/03/2023

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

- develop the organisation of the environment to continually support children to make their own play choices and help further meet their emerging interests and learning needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY412151
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10235422
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 11
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	20
Date of previous inspection	22 February 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2010 and lives in Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire. She operates all year round from 7am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with a registered assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Carly Mooney

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 provision.
- The childminder and inspector completed a discussion about how the curriculum is organised and what they intend children to learn while in their care.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and her assistant at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living and working in the household.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents.

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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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