

Childminder report

Inspection date: 20 January 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	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children form strong bonds with the childminder and show that they feel very safe and secure. This supports their confidence and emotional well-being superbly. Children thoroughly enjoy their time in the childminder's care, confidently moving about their environment, selecting what they would like to do and when. They develop friendships and readily involve each other in their play. The childminder demonstrates kindness and respect to the children, and, consequently, they learn how to be kind and considerate to each other.

The childminder recognises the importance of singing and reading to children. Children happily take part in 'rhyme time'. They enthusiastically select a prop out of the bag to indicate which song they will all sing, and eagerly join in with the familiar words and actions. Children develop a love of books and listen attentively to the well-read stories. They become captivated as they look at the pictures, talk about what they can see and point out characters. Young children are exceptionally confident speakers and are developing an impressive vocabulary. The childminder engages children in conversation and uses her expert teaching skills to sensitively model and demonstrate to children how to say the sounds of letters and words correctly. This helps to close any gaps in children's speech development.

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

- The childminder has an excellent knowledge of how children learn best through play. She is passionate about providing a safe and high-quality service to children and their families. She organises her home exceptionally well to create an inspiring child-friendly environment that ignites children's curiosity. Children feel at ease and are active, highly motivated and inquisitive. For example, they giggle with delight as the childminder mirrors their actions and sounds during 'movement play'.
- While outdoors, the children investigate cornflour 'snow'. The childminder is enthusiastically responsive to children's ideas and watches carefully as they play and explore in their own way. She encourages the children to keep trying when they encounter difficulties to help them be successful learners. The childminder's support is extremely effective in enabling children to make sustained progress. Children rapidly develop the key skills they need to be ready for the next stage in their learning.
- Children enjoy being given responsibility and become independent from a young age. They help to tidy resources away and select a 'spot' to sit on before their singing session. Children take pride in their achievements. They keenly demonstrate how they have learned to put their own coats on before going outdoors. Children follow excellent hygiene routines and enjoy healthy and nutritious snacks and meals in a relaxed and social atmosphere. They confidently

peel their own banana, and then use safety knives to chop it into small pieces. The childminder closely supervises children to ensure that they remain safe.

- The childminder makes excellent use of any new knowledge gained from research or training. For example, she expertly develops children's mathematical skills, weaving in colours, size and quantity as children play. The childminder provides a wealth of new words to describe what the children are doing. For instance, she encourages the children to 'squeeze and release' as they master using pipettes while exploring water.
- Partnership working with parents is exceptional. The childminder ensures that parents are always well informed about their children's learning and progress. She offers advice about practical issues and encourages parents to work with her to guide their child's learning at home. Written testimonials from parents demonstrate the high regard they have for her. They praise the childminder for her 'professionalism, kindness and conscientious nature' and are confident that their children 'are in a fun environment children feel safe in'. Parents receive regular memos so that they are kept fully informed of all planned outings and events.
- The childminder works tirelessly to ensure that children have the very best experiences. She regularly plans outings to places, such as the library, the museum and the dinosaur park, and takes children to the local residential care home. The childminder understands how these enriching learning opportunities contribute to deepening children's understanding of their community and beyond.

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	EY423626
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	10372638
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 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	29 April 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Norwich. She operates all year round, from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3. She offers government funded places for all eligible children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Karen Harris

Inspection activities

- The childminder spoke to the inspector about her curriculum and what she wants children to learn.
- The inspector observed activities, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector looked at written feedback from parents and took account of their views.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- 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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