

Childminder report

Inspection date: 16 January 2025

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children show they have a positive relationship with the childminder. They are confident to approach her for reassurance when needed. The childminder's calm and relaxed manner helps children to develop a sense of belonging in her home. This results in children feeling secure. They know the routines of the day and are eager to join in with the activities the childminder offers them.

Children listen to the childminder as she speaks to them during play and when she gently reminds them about the expectations for behaviour. The childminder knows the children well and provides them with activities that capture their interests. Children are excited to find numbers as they complete a puzzle, confidently saying the number names. The childminder supports children's developing awareness of numbers effectively as she helps them begin to count.

The childminder successfully adapts activities for children who have different abilities and extends their learning appropriately. For example, she helps more able children to learn the names of the planets in our solar system as they work on a puzzle. Children remember these and name planets, such as Mercury and Saturn, independently when they return to the puzzle later.

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

- The childminder has taken positive steps to improve since her last inspection. She has implemented a curriculum that takes account of each child's interests and what they already know. The childminder identifies appropriate next steps for individual children. The childminder recognises that she can continue her professional development and enhance her knowledge about how children learn so her interactions and teaching improve further.
- The childminder is effective in promoting children's communication and language skills. She speaks clearly to children and gives them time to think about what they want to say. The childminder listens to children and repeats words correctly back to them if necessary. Children are fascinated by a picture of a nursery rhyme character. They have sung the rhyme several times before and so are familiar with it. The picture, however, is new to them. They point at the character and other features in the picture and say the character's name.
- The childminder interacts with children well. She knows how to challenge children to extend their learning and recognises when she needs to change her approach to help children understand. For example, she demonstrates how to roll play dough between her hands. The childminder sees that the child is finding this difficult, so she shows them how to roll the dough on the table with one hand. When the child is successful, they smile broadly at the childminder, and they both clap their hands to acknowledge the achievement.

- Children benefit from the childminder's consistent approach and clearly demonstrate their enthusiasm for the activities they want to do. They are curious, become deeply engaged in what they are doing and show sustained concentration. The childminder is supportive of children. She recognises when children are hungry or begin to get distracted and offers a change to the activities.
- The positive and sensitive relationship between the childminder and children is evident and contributes to children's confidence and emotional well-being. The childminder encourages children to become increasingly independent. She supports young children to wash their hands, use a spoon to eat their yoghurt and wipe their face clean. Children successfully put their own shoes on and eagerly help to tidy the toys away when they have finished playing.
- The childminder builds effective partnerships with children's parents. She encourages them to share information about their child to help her continue to meet their needs effectively. The childminder provides parents with daily written and verbal feedback, so they know about their child's care routines and the activities they have enjoyed. She shares ideas with parents to help them continue to support their child's learning at home. This partnership working contributes to children receiving a consistent approach to their care and learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- extend professional development further to improve understanding of how children learn to further enhance teaching and interactions.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY437284
Local authority	West Northamptonshire
Inspection number	10335918
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 5
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	13 February 2024

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Dallington, Northampton. She operates from 7am to 8pm, Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder offers places to children in receipt of early education funding.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Melanie Eastwell

Inspection activities

- The childminder talked to the inspector about her curriculum and what she wants the children to learn.
- The children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of written feedback from children's parents.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact this is having on the children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.

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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