

Childminder report

Inspection date: 17 October 2022

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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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 flourish in the care of this dedicated childminder. She is passionate about her work and treats children with the highest level of respect. Children are confident and curious learners, spending sustained periods of time fully engaged in rich learning experiences. Their attitudes to learning are excellent. Children show high levels of determination and persistence. Children work in partnership with the childminder as they learn to pump water out of buckets. The childminder provides extremely well-judged support that enables the children to manage the task unaided.

Children show exceptional self-care skills and are learning to recognise their own care needs. For example, when children's sleeves become wet, they communicate confidently that they feel cold and would like a new top. Children enjoy engaging in the wealth of early mathematical opportunities the childminder provides. They count regularly and are confident in recognising shapes. As children play with water, discussions about size and volume automatically take place. Children talk about money and help to make price tags during role-play activities.

Children take part in a rich range of experiences to develop an understanding and appreciation of nature. They help care for family pets, grow and harvest fruit and vegetables and take part in regular nature walks.

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

- The experienced childminder demonstrates a genuine passion for her role. She has high expectations for all children in her care and provides a rich curriculum that is extremely well thought out and sequenced. The childminder fully understands the interests, knowledge and learning styles of the children in her care and tailors her learning environment to support these precisely.
- The childminder supports children's thinking skills to the highest level. She provides plentiful opportunities for children to wonder, predict and think. The childminder encourages children to remember past events during activities and to reflect on how they might relate to their current activity.
- Children enjoy highly engaging early scientific activities. They use play dough, batteries and small light bulbs to build basic electrical circuits. The childminder encourages children to experiment and notice that flowers, leaves and feathers float, while stones of all sizes sink.
- The childminder provides a language-rich environment. She talks with children as they play, skilfully introducing new words slowly and clearly, so children can hear and repeat them with confidence. She corrects children's pronunciation of words sensitively and listens carefully to their ideas and suggestions. The childminder ensures that books, both fiction and non-fiction, are freely available

and she regularly weaves songs through games.

- The childminder is sensitive to the possible effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on children's development. She swiftly identifies potential emerging gaps in children's learning and works effectively with parents and professionals to support their development. Consequently, any gaps in children's learning close rapidly and all children are making excellent progress.
- Children take part in very well considered and well-planned activities to help develop their understanding of other communities and traditions. The childminder uses role play skilfully to help children understand the needs of others and to start to learn the language of feelings.
- The childminder supports children highly effectively to develop an understanding of healthy lifestyles. They enjoy healthy home-cooked and nutritional meals, which the childminder prepares carefully, taking account of dietary requirements. Children know to wash their hands before eating and are skilled in doing this with minimal support from the childminder. Children take part in physical activities in local parks, providing them with opportunities to experience age-appropriate risk and challenge.
- The childminder is highly motivated to continue to develop her practice. She is keen to learn more about different educational theories and put relevant learning into practice. The childminder constantly reflects on the needs of the children in her care and expertly adapts her provision to meet these needs. As a result, the childminder continues to provide an outstanding learning environment.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is fully aware of her responsibilities to safeguard children and to protect their welfare. She has an excellent understanding of the signs that may indicate a child is being abused or at risk of suffering harm. This includes wider safeguarding issues, such as the risk of radicalisation. The childminder knows exactly when and to whom to report any concerns she may have and keeps relevant contact numbers accessibly stored. The childminder is clear about her duty to report an allegation about herself or members of her household to the relevant bodies.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY438362
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10235617
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	6
Number of children on roll	2
Date of previous inspection	14 December 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2012. She lives in Caldecote, Cambridgeshire. The childminder operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Julia Sudbury

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 her evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how she ensures it is safe and suitable. She spoke to the inspector about her intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector through written testimonials.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation.

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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