

Childminder report

Inspection date: 14 November 2022

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

The childminder provides a warm and welcoming environment, where children are happy, safe and settled. There is an ethos of mutual respect, and the warm relationships between the childminder and children are immediately evident. Children show lots of spirit. The childminder values and celebrates each child as an individual, which helps to shape their character. For example, children's home languages are valued, as the childminder use words in their home language, alongside English. Children show kindness to one another. When their friend loses their special toy, children eagerly help to look for it and hand it back to them.

Children have ample opportunity to get fresh air and spend time outside and often choose to be in the garden. They take advantage of the opportunities offered across the seven areas of learning. Children explore capacity as they fill and empty containers to make potions. They use scissors to snip herbs and put these in their potion. The children explore their senses as they smell the herbs. They show high levels of curiosity and engagement as they explore and investigate the potion station. Children are articulate and confident communicators. They have a rich vocabulary and tell the childminder 'Dinosaurs live in a Jurassic world' and comment they have made a 'sculpture'.

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

- The childminder believes children deserve the best start in their lives and puts the children and their families at the heart of her business. She refreshes her professional knowledge regularly. For example, she has completed training to help her support children with managing and recognising their emotions. This has been particularly helpful in supporting those children born during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of each child in her care. She plans a curriculum that focuses on developing children's skills across the seven areas of learning. The childminder plans activities and experiences that offer children several learning outcomes. This helps to prepare them with skills and knowledge for future learning, such as moving to school or nursery.
- The childminder reinforces her expectations of children's behaviour. She calmly and patiently reminds the children when they need to sit down on the sofa. She praises and encourages children regularly throughout the day. Children thrive on these positive reinforcements.
- Children have a positive attitude to learning and enjoy choosing what they want to play with from the resources available to them. Babies use their small-muscle skills to investigate the lightbox and magnets. Toddlers spend a long time developing a pattern with blocks. Pre-school children develop their literacy skills as they colour pictures and start to write their names. However, although

children enjoy the childminder's interactions, she does not consistently challenge their learning to help them build on what they know and can already do.

- The childminder supports children to become independent in self-care routines, such as putting on their wet suits before going outdoors. Children willingly have a go at dressing themselves, and when they get it back to front, the childminder offers lots of praise for their effort. This helps to raise children's self-esteem.
- Healthy eating is well promoted. All children benefit from freshly prepared, home-cooked meals. The childminder takes into account children's dietary requirements when planning meals. For example, children thoroughly enjoy a jacket potato with cheese and a selection of salad vegetables.
- Parents refer to the childminder's setting as a 'home away from home'. Without exception, they comment extremely positively about the childminder. Parents further praise the superb activities and opportunities the childminder provides for their children. Parents say they are kept well informed about their child's progress.
- The childminder spends time with another local childminder and her minded children. They regularly visit the local woods for forest school activities, a soft play centre and the library. These busy days help children to develop an understanding of the world. Furthermore, children develop their social skills as they socialise with other adults and play with other children.
- The childminder encourages children to learn about oral health and hygiene. Children play with pretend teeth and toothbrushes. The childminder talks to the children about the importance of cleaning their teeth regularly.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder ensures her knowledge of safeguarding is up to date. She has a secure understanding of her role in protecting children. The childminder can identify possible signs and indicators of abuse and is aware what to do if she had a concern about a child's safety. She understands the more complex concerns affecting children, such as domestic abuse and county lines. The childminder is aware of her responsibilities should an allegation be made against her or a member of her household. The childminder ensures that the learning environment is clean, safe and suitable for children to play and learn in.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide an even greater level of challenge to children's learning to help build on what they already know and can do.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY451607
Local authority	Nottinghamshire County Council
Inspection number	10235923
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 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	12 December 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2012 and lives in Carlton, Nottinghamshire. She operates term time only, from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sharon Alleary

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 childminder.
- The inspector completed a safety check of the areas of the setting available to children.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and the children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity completed by the childminder.
- The inspector took account of written references from parents.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of household members.

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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