

Childminder report

Inspection date: 8 August 2025

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 are happy and enjoy their time in this calm and welcoming childminding setting. Children develop a sense of belonging and feel part of a family as they interact with the childminder and their family members. Children play confidently with new people present after the childminder explains who they are. This demonstrates they feel safe in the environment.

Children have the opportunity to explore nature daily. Children regularly visit local country parks with the childminder. Within the setting, children run around a large, open garden space. Children develop a range of learning when outside, such as imagination and understanding the world. Children look for bugs in the garden and search for a grasshopper by following its sounds. Other children mix water and sand together and role play making food in the play kitchen.

The childminder has high behaviour expectations for children. Children behave well and understand these. The childminder quickly and calmly responds to children if they display unwanted behaviour while they play. For example, children are reminded not to put resources into their mouths. Children respond positively to the childminder's guidance. The childminder offers praise to children when they show positive behaviour. This builds children's self-esteem.

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

- The childminder has a clear idea of what she wants children to learn before they start school. She focuses on personal skills and independence. At snack time, children are encouraged to pour their own milk into their cups and refill them as needed. At lunchtime, the childminder praises children for trying to open their food packets themselves.
- The childminder knows the children well. She plans activities that build on children's knowledge and skills. Children excitedly explore a play dough activity. They use scoops and utensils to make play dough ice cream. This activity helps children develop the hand muscles they need for writing.
- The environment is organised by the childminder in a way that considers the current interests of the children. However, the childminder does not consistently arrange the indoor environment to support children to be highly engaged in their independent play. That said, children are highly engaged in exploring outside and during adult-led activities.
- The childminder promotes communication and language development. During play, she talks to children and asks them questions about what they are doing in order to build on their thinking skills and vocabulary. When words are mispronounced, the childminder positively repeats the word back to model it correctly. This develops children's pronunciation.

- Children have formed positive relationships with the childminder. Children go to her when they need support or to seek reassurance. For example, when children are feeling unsure about a change in the routine, they hold the childminder's hand for comfort.
- The childminder has created a safe space for children to try new things. Children climb the slide and experiment with different ways of going down, such as on their front or side. This shows that children have the confidence to try new approaches to doing things.
- Professional development is important to the childminder. She attends weekly training courses, covering a wide range of topics. She researches different behaviour management techniques and uses these in practice. This helps improve on the childminder's knowledge, interactions and teaching with the children.
- Parents and the childminder have regular, open communication. The childminder uses an app to update parents throughout the day. Conversations about the children's next steps take place, and ideas on how to support them are discussed between the childminder and families. The childminder provides parents with information on healthy eating and toilet training. This helps children's learning be consistent and extended at home. Parents comment that they are pleased with the level of care their children receive and the progress their children are making. As a result, parent partnership is strong.

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:

- organise the indoor environment to support children to be consistently engaged during times of independent play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY453346
Local authority	North Northamptonshire
Inspection number	10398669
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 7
Total number of places	4
Number of children on roll	10
Date of previous inspection	5 November 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2013 and lives in Wellingborough, Northamptonshire. She operates her provision all year round, from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides government-funded childcare places.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jess Copson

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how she ensures that they are safe and suitable.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises her early years provision, including the aims and rationale for her early years foundation stage curriculum.
- The children spoke to the inspector about what they enjoy doing while with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the children.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- 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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