

Childminder report

Inspection date: 25 April 2023

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 appear happy and secure in the childminder's home. Older children play together with pretend farm vehicles, creating a storyline to their play. Younger children explore toys and stay close to the childminder where they feel secure. The childminder incorporates children's interests in their learning. As a result, children are engaged in what they are doing.

Children play well together. Older children pass toys to each other and take turns during play. They show care and concern to younger children and allow them to join in with their games. The childminder models good behaviour. She sets out smaller activities where she teaches older children to take turns. She models good manners. As a result, children are polite and friendly to others.

Children demonstrate that they have made positive relationships with the childminder. For example, they invite her into their play and are eager to share their experiences. Children seek comfort when needed by sitting on the childminder's lap. The childminder supports children well during activities and shows them how they can make games out of different resources. As a result, children make good progress in their development and are learning new skills.

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

- The childminder ensures that she knows children well when they start in her care. She has discussions with families regarding children's development and interests. This helps the childminder to plan specifically for what children need to learn and helps to support children's emotional well-being and security in her home.
- Children have opportunities to explore their local community and learn about the world around them. The childminder takes them to local parks, farms and on walks. They visit an alpaca farm where they learn about how to care for them. The childminder creates opportunities for children to socialise with others by attending toddler groups.
- The childminder provides lots of opportunities for children to develop their physical capabilities. Outside, children ride on toys and bicycles as they develop their large-muscle skills. They are encouraged to use tongs and select pasta shapes out of a tray to build the muscle strength in their hands in preparation for early writing.
- Children have opportunities to choose activities for themselves and their own ways of doing things. Younger children learn about the sounds different animals make as they play with jigsaw puzzles. Older children choose to share a puzzle with a friend as they complete it. However, sometimes, the childminder does not challenge older children enough in their learning. As a result, opportunities are

missed for them to build on their existing knowledge.

- The childminder provides opportunities for children to develop their independence. Children try and cut their own fruit for snack time and are encouraged to put their coats on before going into the garden. However, at times, the childminder intervenes and does things for children before they have had the chance to have a go for themselves. This means that children do not always have opportunities to persist at skills they are still developing.
- The childminder continues to improve her knowledge of early years development by undertaking various courses. She uses the knowledge she gains to ensure that she evaluates her practice and continues to make improvements to her provision. For example, she attends courses that focus on the reforms of the 'Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage' and uses what she learns to review how she observes and assesses children to ensure that they make good progress.
- Parents commend the childminder for the care that she provides to children. They all mention that their children are happy and that they trust her. The childminder updates parents in a written format so that they can see what their children have done throughout the day. She shares what she is working on with children and provides activity ideas for parents to continue teaching children at home.
- The childminder works well in partnership with other early years settings that children also attend. The childminder discusses children's learning to help provide consistency in their development. She forms links with local schools and ensures that statutory assessments are shared with them.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a clear understanding of the signs and symptoms of potential abuse. She discusses what she would do if she suspected that children were being exposed to harm, strong beliefs or radicalisation. The childminder has the contact numbers for the relevant agencies to report to if she has concerns about a child's safety or welfare. The childminder carries out safety checks in her home and children participate in regular fire evacuations. The childminder ensures that the external gate is bolted so that children are safe in the garden. She encourages children to think about safety as they play and reminds them to make sure that the area is safe when riding bicycles.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- create more opportunities to build on older children's existing knowledge
- encourage children to persist when trying to do things by themselves.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY468125
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	10279853
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 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	2 August 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2013 and lives in Slaley, Matlock. She operates all year round from 7.45am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Amy Clarkson

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 setting.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The childminder and the inspector had a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- Children spoke with the inspector during the inspection. The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity completed by the childminder.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- 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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