

Inspection of Cooper, Claire Elizabeth

Inspection date:

5 May 2023

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children are happy and safe in the care of this passionate and enthusiastic childminder. They separate easily from parents and excitedly explore the activities and experiences on offer. Children are deeply engaged in their learning and show high levels of concentration. They explore new words such as 'coral' and 'tropical' when talking about sea creatures with the childminder. This helps them to extend their vocabulary. Children remember and talk about their prior learning, such as when they made seaweed. They use this knowledge to further extend their play. Children communicate confidently with each other, listening to one another and sharing their experiences. They join in singing familiar rhymes and retell their favourite stories. Children take part in daily exercise sessions to help them to develop their large muscles.

The childminder has high expectations of children's learning and behaviour. Routines and boundaries help children to follow the rules and anticipate what is coming next. Children learn to wash their hands 'to stop the germs' and clean up spills 'to keep us safe'. They learn to be independent and practise their developing skills. For example, at snack time, children take great pleasure in opening and peeling the banana for themselves. Children use the outdoor tap to help fill the water tray each morning. They fill their watering cans and transport the water until the tray is full. Children learn about events in their lives, such as the King's Coronation. They decorate flags and make crowns to use in their own celebrations. They talk about the Coronation and why this is important to their culture.

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

- The childminder embeds her curriculum intent and implementation securely across her practice. This is evident from the way that children respond to the routines and activities she offers. The childminder expertly gathers information about children's starting points on entry. She uses this information, along with her own assessments, to paint an accurate picture of children's development and identify the next steps in their learning. The childminder builds on what children already know. This provides children with opportunities to refine their skills and raise their aspirations for future learning.
- The childminder encourages children to develop independence and social skills. She models effective communication between the children and teaches them about respect and empathy for others. The childminder talks to the children about how they are feeling. She offers explanations for how and why the children should behave, providing lots of positive reinforcement and praise. This helps children to know what is expected of them and develop a deeper understanding of right and wrong.
- The childminder's interactions with the children are exemplary. She constantly

talks to them, offering a narrative of what they are doing. The childminder follows their interests and requests to provide activities that are engaging and exciting for them. She understands and interprets children's verbal and non-verbal cues, such as babbles and vocalisations. In doing so, she values and considers the children's input and opinions.

- The childminder exposes children to a rich array of experiences, such as visiting the petting zoo, local parks and gardens. They look for signs of nature and observe the changing seasons. The childminder teaches children to respect nature and plants, and they talk about how to look after them. This helps children to develop an appreciation of the world around them and understand their local community.
- The childminder teaches children about healthy eating and exercise. They learn why it is important to keep their body healthy. She offers them healthy choices at snack times and talks about why certain foods are good for them. Children take part in daily exercise to warm their muscles up for the day and freely access indoor and outdoor activities. The childminder teaches children about online safety and ensures they have access to a balanced curriculum. This helps to support their all-round development and well-being.
- The childminder works closely with parents to gather information about the children. This helps to ensure that parents are fully involved in their children's learning and future development. The childminder uses her knowledge of the children to identify any gaps in their learning and communicates her findings to parents. She provides additional information for other agencies to help build a more holistic view of the child.
- The childminder constantly monitors and evaluates her provision. She is always seeking to further improve her practice for the benefit of the children who attend. She links with other childminders in the area and shares support, ideas and advice with those new to the profession. The childminder seeks the views of parents. She uses this information to make improvements to her practice. This enables her to provide the best possible care and education for children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a sound knowledge of safeguarding issues. She accesses training to help her to fully understand signs and symptoms of abuse and how to keep children safe from harm. The childminder has risk assessments in place and constantly monitors activities to ensure they are safe for children. Her home is safe and secure. Children have boundaries in place to keep them safe when using outdoor equipment. The childminder checks the identity of visitors. She ensures they are aware of the emergency evacuation plan and where the meeting point is. The childminder is trained in paediatric first aid and keeps records of any accidents or incidents and any medications the children may need.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2631413
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	10285676
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 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of registered person	Cooper, Claire Elizabeth
Telephone number	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2021 and lives in the Grappenhall area of Warrington. She operates from Monday to Friday, 7.30am until 6pm, all year around, with the exception of family holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Michelle Highcock

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 childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how she ensures that they are safe and suitable.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- Parents shared their views on 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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