



QUALITY ASSURANCE INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection date:	28/11/2023	Previous Inspection Date:	n/a
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The quality and standards of the Early Years provision:	This Inspection:	Previous Inspection	
	GOOD	n/a	
Quality of Education	GOOD	n/a	
Behaviour and Attitudes	GOOD	n/a	
Personal Development	GOOD	n/a	
Leadership and Management	GOOD	n/a	

What is it like to attend this Early Years Setting?

Children are happy to arrive at the setting and have a good relationship with their key person. The childminder knows the children well. She observes children and plans activities for them, to extend on what they already know and can do, such as, developing language skills and introducing new vocabulary. When children demonstrate a strong interest, the childminder uses this to provide engaging opportunities. For example, she uses cars to encourage children to develop counting skills. Children are provided with exciting opportunities that spark their interests and curiosity.

Children behave well at the setting. They participate in activities and are proud of their achievements. Children share their experiences with peers and adults. For example, when painting, children tell the childminder 'look, I've made a beach'. The childminder takes time to look at the picture and asks, 'can you tell me about your beach?'. She uses open questions to encourage children to talk about the process they have taken and develop their conversational skills.

What does the Early Years Setting do well, and what does it need to improve on?

The childminder works alongside two co-childminders and one assistant at the setting. A maximum of three adults working together at any one time. The childminders have worked hard to develop a fantastic forest school setting, where children spend much of their day outdoors. Together they have constructed a well sequenced and varied curriculum. They focus on developing children's emotional literacy and communication skills which promotes children's self-confidence and well-being.

The childminder is calm and gentle. She offers children praise and reassurance when needed. For instance, when children have a disagreement over a wheelbarrow, they



gently talk to the child about how they are feeling. They explain that by taking the wheelbarrow they have left their friend to feel sad. The childminder gently encourages the child to give the wheelbarrow back, reassuring them throughout. Children demonstrate that they feel safe in the childminders care and by talking and explaining reasons to the children, the childminder teaches children to understand the consequences of their actions.

Children understand the importance of hygiene and remember to wash their hands independently before eating and after using the toilet. Children recognise when their hands are dirty and choose to clean their hands at regular intervals throughout the day. However, hygiene practices can be improved further by reminding children to wash their hands after blowing their nose.

The childminder provides exciting and engaging activities for children. They are eager to join in and listen carefully to the childminder's instructions. During activities the childminder includes all children and encourages them to join in group conversations. She works together with children to discuss problems and concepts. For example, when sorting sticks into sizes, the children give their opinions, and the childminder encourages their critical thinking even further by asking open-ended questions. The childminder does not tell children what is right and wrong, instead they explore the subject and draw a conclusion together through sustained shared thinking. These opportunities broaden children's learning experiences.

The childminder has developed good relationships with parents and families. She shares information regarding children's learning through an online app. Parents receive regular updates and say they feel well informed about their children's experiences at the setting. However, the childminder does not support children to continue this learning at home to develop their knowledge even further.

The childminder works closely with her two co-childminders to be reflective practitioners. They meet every four weeks to discuss the progress of the setting, make plans for the future and evaluate their ongoing practice. They all take part in supervision sessions which enables them to reflect on their strengths and weaknesses, access training and set targets for improvement.

Safeguarding

The childminder demonstrates a good knowledge of the signs of abuse. She confidently discusses the safeguarding procedures in place at the setting and knows how to record or refer any concerns she may have about a child. The childminder also has a strong knowledge of wider safeguarding concerns such as county lines and the 'Prevent' duty. The childminder has a good understanding of her responsibilities for referring to the local authorities designated officer, should she have concerns about another childminder or member of the household.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

Strengthen hygiene practices further, to ensure all children are reminded about washing their hands at appropriate times. For example, after blowing their nose.

Implement home learning opportunities to support parents and children to continue learning at home.

Inspection Activities

The inspector was given a tour of the setting.

The childminder joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked about the curriculum.

The inspector looked at relevant paperwork.

The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the children.

Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.

The childminder joined the inspector when observing her co-childminder and gave reflective feedback regarding the childminders practice.



Name of Childminder	Jennifer Lane-Smith
Registration Number	SCA170120
Type of Provision (CM at home/50% non-domestic premises)	Childminder
Registers (Early Years, Compulsory, Voluntary Childcare?)	All registers
Local Authority	Norfolk
Childminder Agency Inspector	Vikki Reynolds
Date of previous Inspection	n/a
Number of children on roll	38

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