

Childminder report

Inspection date:

8 December 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children thrive in the care of this caring and nurturing childminder. She is warm and welcoming to the children in her care, and is sensitive to their needs. The childminder supports children to manage their own feelings. She acknowledges when they are upset and soothes them with gentle words of encouragement. Children snuggle in for a story and settle when their parents leave. They quickly become involved in their learning. Children feel safe and secure in the care of the childminder. She has high expectations of children, and their behaviour is good. Children are encouraged to take care of the resources, putting things back in the correct boxes.

Personal, social, and emotional development is very well supported. The childminder plans opportunities for children to go on trips and visit the wider community. They go on bus and tram rides, walk to the post office to post their cards and visit farms and soft-play centres. Children learn to explore the environment with confidence. They take part in group activities with other childminders. For example, they hire a hall to allow children to take part in community activities, such as the Queen's jubilee celebrations. Children work with others to create large scale art projects. Children make good progress and become confident learners.

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

- Children enjoy playing in the garden. The childminder offers a wide range of activities to support the development of children's gross motor skills outside. They run about and play on slides and bikes. They take regular trips to a soft-play area. Children's physical skills are well developed.
- Language and communication skills are very well supported. The childminder is a good role model. She comments on what children are doing throughout their play and introduces new words, such as 'aubergine' and 'fortune cookie'. Children become confident speakers.
- Weekly library visits encourage children to explore a wide range of books. Children enjoy accessing large floor books that they share in a group. They choose books to borrow to bring back, and read at the setting. Children develop a love of reading.
- Children develop the use of mathematical language during their play. For example, the childminder asks, 'Can you find me a big red button?' and 'Can you find me a little yellow button?' as children sort through a box of buttons. However, for some children, mathematics activities are too difficult and not well matched to their age and stage of development. As a result, children do not always make the progress they are capable of.
- Detailed two-year checks are completed once the childminder has got to know

the child well. These are shared with parents and health visitors. Ongoing assessments show what children can do. Regular updates on children's next steps are verbally shared with parents, and diaries are used for daily updates and developmental needs. Information and resources are shared with parents about what they can do at home to support learning. Parents feel well informed about their child's learning.

- The childminder promotes healthy lifestyles. While playing with play food, children are supported to identify which foods are healthy, and which are not and should be eaten in moderation. They follow good hygiene routines when washing hands. Children develop an understanding of healthy choices. Oral health is promoted through posters, discussions and sharing information with parents. Children are encouraged to register with a dentist if they have not yet done so.
- Parents are very happy with the childminder. They report children are very eager to come to the childminder's home and are often upset when it is time to leave. Parents feel supported by the childminder, particularly when they had concerns about leaving their child after the Covid-19 restrictions. The childminder puts them at ease, and they feel their children are safe and well cared for.
- The childminder self-evaluates her provision and has a good understanding of her strengths and what she wants to improve. She is active in seeking out further development opportunities. The childminder always strives to provide the best for the children in her care.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a very good understanding of how to keep children safe. She knows the signs and symptoms of abuse and understands how to protect children from harm. Online safety is well promoted, particularly with older children. She helps them to develop an understanding of what they can do to keep themselves safe when accessing online resources. Individual health needs are met. Information is sought from parents before starting, and the childminder has a good understanding of the allergies children have and what precautions are needed. The childminder ensures no one can enter or leave the premises unsupervised. Children are taught how to approach and handle dogs safely. Risk assessments are completed to ensure a safe environment for children. The home is safe and secure.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- ensure provision of mathematics activities which closely reflect children's varying ages and stages of development, to enable them to make the progress they are capable of.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2590992
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	10262815
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 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	12
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2020 and lives in Beighton, Sheffield. The childminder holds an appropriate childminding qualification. She operates all year round, from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded places for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Miriam Caldecott

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure those are safe and suitable.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises their early years provision including the aims and rationale for their curriculum.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- 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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