

Childminder report

Inspection date:

6 June 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 thoroughly engaged and motivated to learn throughout their time with the inspiring childminder. They make excellent progress in all aspects of their learning. Children are extremely well prepared for the next stage in their education and development. They build extremely well on their vocabulary and language skills as they play, listen to stories and talk to the childminder. For example, children use words such as 'silvery' and 'transparent' with a good understanding of what these mean when they describe the wings of a bee that they observe together. The childminder helps them to ask questions to deepen their knowledge and stimulate their enthusiasm.

Children are very well behaved and feel safe and secure. They increasingly recognise their own emotions and respect the needs of others. Older children learn to be very supportive of younger ones and sensitively offer their help and share their knowledge. Children rise to the childminder's high expectations. For example, they are keen to persist with challenging tasks, such as planting small plant shoots without damaging them. Children achieve high levels of independence. For instance, they prepare their own healthy snacks and thoroughly clean their teeth afterwards. Parents appreciate the strong steps that the childminder takes to ensure that their children make a positive start to their learning and achieve their full potential.

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

- The well-qualified childminder is passionate about her role and highly ambitious for all children to make the most of their time with her. She is very reflective and draws well on her previous leadership and teaching experiences in other early years settings to provide the highest standards of childcare. The childminder makes very good use of detailed research and further study such as a diploma course on teaching disadvantaged early years children to further enrich her provision.
- The childminder has clear and ambitious plans for every child to achieve based on a thorough knowledge of their achievements and interests. She makes full use of discussions with parents and carefully planned settling-in sessions to ensure that children make a very secure start to their learning. For instance, through carefully planned activities, three- and four-year-old children build their understanding of counting, ordering and recognising numbers to 20 and beyond. They use a range of strategies to add and subtract.
- The childminder focuses strongly on children developing the highest standards of communication and language skills. Children join in a wide range of songs and stories, and they engage in carefully considered conversations that help them to remember and use their developing vocabulary. Two-year-old children build on

their sentence construction. For example, they explain that, 'The flowers need sunshine and rain to grow.'

- Children's love of reading is very strongly promoted and supports their developing vocabulary. Children enjoy looking at books together and listening to well-chosen stories in the garden tepee or studying information leaflets on natural history. Children enjoy telling each other stories based on photo books of their experiences that the childminder creates for them. This also helps them to recall their learning experiences.
- The childminder develops children's personal and social skills extremely well. She is an excellent role model and inspires children through songs, role play and stories. In particular, the childminder has worked closely with parents to help them to strengthen their children's social skills that were impacted by lockdowns during the COVID-19 pandemic. Children enjoy their weekly visits to the library and many trips to museums, farms and parks.
- Children's physical development is strong and systematically promoted. They enjoy twisting and turning as they navigate their way through the maze of shrubs that they helped to design in the childminder's garden. Children learn to refine their hand and finger control as they use pens, crayons and paintbrushes of varying lengths and thickness. The childminder helps children to develop careful scissor control and recognise which scissors are needed for cutting different materials.
- Children's very good behaviour and excellent manners are very well supported. Children learn about their emotions. For instance, they create pictures from natural objects based on the book 'Where the Wild Things are'. The childminder involves children in taking turns and making choices throughout the day.
- Parents very strongly recommend the childminder. They consider that the childminder's calm and constructive care offers their children the best start to their learning and builds on their own parenting and expectations. Parents receive excellent communication on their children's progress and support for learning at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a very thorough knowledge of how to keep children safe from harm in many different circumstances. She understands how to identify potential signs that a child is at risk of abuse or neglect. She knows how to record concerns and who to report them to, including any allegations made against herself. The childminder makes excellent use of a range of training opportunities and guidance from the local authority and other training providers. She supports children to manage their own safety, for example, when they use knives to prepare their snacks or play in woodlands and parks.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2629611
Local authority	Rotherham
Inspection number	10289505
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	13
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2021 and lives in Rotherham. She operates all year round, from 6.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds early years professional status. The childminder provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Andrew Clark

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 childminder showed the inspector around the areas of her home used for childminding and explained her intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed children during activities to assess the impact on their learning and development.
- The inspector reviewed a range of documents relevant to the childminder's practice.
- The inspector considered parents' views of the childminder's setting through discussion and their written feedback.

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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