

Childminder report

Inspection date:

20 April 2022

**The quality and
standards of early
years provision**

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Met

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children enjoy the time in the childminder's welcoming and nurturing home after their school day. They are happy, relaxed and comfortable. The childminder praises children's good behaviour and achievements. She organises the environment well and provides a wide range of stimulating resources, which are tailored to meet the ages and needs of each child. Children confidently make choices, such as if they want to have a snack or do an activity first.

Children of different ages get on exceptionally well. They form firm friendships and enjoy each other's company. Children talk happily together as they take part in games. They demonstrate excitement as they find innovative places to hide the toy tiger in the garden. Children take turns readily and comply with the rules of the game. Children use their imagination and add interesting features, such as clouds and rainbows to chalk pictures. They encourage each other and make positive comments about their drawings. This supports children's confidence and self-esteem.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the childminder has increased cleaning and reinforced the importance of handwashing routines to help to minimise the spread of COVID-19. Children's good health and well-being are promoted well. High standards of hygiene are maintained throughout all childcare areas. Children quickly learn good hygiene routines and implement these willingly.

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

- The childminder knows the children she cares for well. She confidently talks about children's personalities, interests and what they enjoy. When planning her curriculum, the childminder focuses on helping children to develop their personal, social and emotional skills. She wants children to be confident, independent and self-assured individuals. The childminder plans experiences that she knows children will enjoy. She uses children's interests as a guide and asks older children what they would like to do.
- The childminder helps children to learn how they can keep themselves safe. For example, as children walk back from school, she talks to them about road safety when they cross the road. Children discuss and practise fire evacuation drills with the childminder in her home. This helps them to understand what they need to do in the event of a fire.
- Children play happily in the childminder's garden and learn about the world around them. They enjoy growing their own fruit and vegetables in the vegetable patch. They proudly show the visiting inspector the thyme, mint and blueberry plants. Children help to care for the childminder's pet rabbits.

- Children enjoy creating with craft materials. The childminder encourages their curiosity, suggests techniques and offers them additional resources, inspiring them well. Children develop their coordination. They spend extended periods creating works of art.
- The childminder works in partnership with the local school to support the experiences of children who attend after-school care. She plans activities based on the learning taking place at school. The childminder passes messages on from the local school and shares children's achievements.
- The childminder provides healthy snacks, which children readily enjoy. Children chat to one another and the childminder supports this, making mealtimes a social occasion. Children discuss their likes and dislikes. The childminder encourages children to develop their independence skills, such as pouring their own drinks.
- Children learn about the local wildlife on the walk home from school. The childminder models language well, asks questions and introduces a wide range of new words, such as 'sparrow' and 'habitat'. Children consider where the squirrels store their food. This helps to extend children's language and communication skills.
- Parents speak very highly of the childminder. They say she is 'friendly and helpful'. Parents comment that their children are well looked after. They are pleased to have a safe and nurturing place, where their children can play happily before and after school.
- The childminder knows what she does well and recognises her areas for development. She has attended mandatory training and carried out various types of research. The childminder has identified that she would like to extend her professional development, to help to enhance the quality of children's learning experiences even further.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder prioritises children's safety. She is aware of the signs of abuse and neglect. The childminder knows what to do if she has a concern about a child or an allegation is made against herself or household members. She makes sure that her home is kept safe. The childminder carries out regular risk assessments on all areas of her home, including the garden, to help ensure children's safety. She makes sure that the premises are secure, so that children cannot leave unsupervised and unwanted visitors cannot gain entry. The childminder maintains an appropriate paediatric first-aid certificate.

Setting details

Unique reference number	300507
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	10117178
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	6 to 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	10 June 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1998 and lives in the Halfway area of Sheffield. She operates all year round from 7.45am until 9am, and from 2.45pm until 5.45pm, Monday to Friday, during term time. She also works from 8am until 6pm during school holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Julie Dent

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 this into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector completed a learning walk of the childminder's provision and discussed how she organises and implements her curriculum.
- The children spoke with the inspector at appropriate times throughout the inspection. Parents' views were also taken into account by the inspector.
- Various documents were sampled by the inspector, including paediatric first-aid qualifications and public liability insurance.
- The inspector had a discussion with the childminder about her training and how she evaluates her practice.

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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