

Childminder report

Inspection date:

28 September 2022

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

This passionate and incredibly experienced childminder is described by parents as 'sunshine on a plate'. Her dedication to providing the highest quality of care and teaching is admirable. Children form wonderful bonds and respond positively to her warm and supportive nature. They behave well as they mirror the actions of the childminder, who is a terrific role model.

Children are very happy here. The childminder is incredibly attentive to their individual needs as she seeks to give them the skills they need for life. Their well-being is paramount, and they develop an excellent sense of self. Children are valued and celebrated as individuals, which helps to shape their character. Even from a very young age, they are given the chance to make choices. They are encouraged to have a go, and complete small tasks independently. When toddlers struggle with opening packaging, the reassuring childminder models how to do this by using 'pinchy fingers'. This helps children to develop confidence to tackle challenges and face learning head on.

Children are encouraged to use their voice, which they do because they know their thoughts and feelings will be heard and respected. They express their likes, dislikes and interests. The childminder uses this information to plan learning that children enjoy. For example, they find out about outer space and discover pre-historic wonders as they learn about dinosaurs.

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

- The childminder completes detailed assessments of children's development by working together with parents. High-quality interactions and planned activities help children to make excellent progress. At every opportunity, the first-rate teaching supports children remarkably well. The childminder makes the most of all opportunities to teach children. For example, she models counting as they climb stairs and put candles in birthday cakes.
- The childminder uses her extensive knowledge of child development to provide challenge for children to learn and master new skills. For example, when babies can confidently walk, she encourages them to explore more complex movements, such as climbing and rolling at soft-play centres. Children who do not have access to a garden at home are given multiple active play opportunities. These include regular visits to parks and outdoor spaces, so they can develop their physical skills.
- Children's communication and language skills are expertly supported. The childminder brilliantly develops children's vocabulary by continuously modelling language and narrating actions. She extends toddlers' sentences by adding new words as she repeats them back to them. The childminder has numerous

conversations with children, which helps them to be articulate and become confident communicators.

- A great emphasis is placed on story time. This helps to build children's love of reading. The childminder signposts parents to library services, and shares books for children to read at home. Books are chosen for specific purposes. For instance, they link with topics or relate to children's next steps, such as toilet training. Older children share books by their favourite authors with the childminder. This helps to develop their literacy skills.
- Children often visit parks, farms and animal centres. They marvel as they spot bees and observe spiders' webs. They feed fish in the garden, which helps them to learn how to be kind and look after living things. Their busy days help them to develop knowledge across all areas of learning. They develop their social skills with numerous opportunities to socialise and play with other children at playgroup.
- Children are taught how to keep themselves safe. They play at being dentists and learn about oral hygiene. Older children manage risk independently by completing risk assessments on outings. The childminder teaches children how to stay safe online and about 'stranger danger'. Children say they can talk to her if they have any concerns or worries in their lives.
- Partnerships with parents are exemplary. They truly appreciate the family-feel approach and the wider support that the childminder provides. She remains part of families' support networks, even after children have moved on to schools. A detailed journal is sent home daily. Parents know what children are learning and how they can support this.
- The childminder feels privileged to carry out her role in 'shaping the next generation'. She refreshes her professional knowledge regularly. For example, she has completed language training and advised parents on how to develop children's speech, by limiting the use of dummies. She has plans to provide more natural resources to help develop children's imaginative skills. In her pursuit for excellence, she networks closely with other childminders to share ideas and improve practice further.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an extensive knowledge of child protection. She takes her responsibility to safeguard children extremely seriously. She has a vast knowledge of the categories of abuse and how to identify potential signs that a child may be at risk of harm. Furthermore, the childminder has an excellent awareness of wider safeguarding issues, such as domestic violence. The childminder is aware of the actions to take, should she have any concerns about children or their families. Parents are provided with information about how to keep their children safe at home. Thorough risk assessments ensure that the learning environment is clean, safe and suitable for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	300526
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	10117179
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	0 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	17
Date of previous inspection	14 January 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1996 and lives in the Greenhill area of Sheffield. She operates Tuesday and Wednesday from 7am to 5pm, and Thursday from 7am to 4.30pm. The childminder provides care all year round, except for periods of closure during family holidays. She holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jessica Copland

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 inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- Parents and children shared their views of the setting with the inspector through written feedback.
- 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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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