

Childminder report

Inspection date:

16 September 2025

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

The childminder creates a very safe, caring and exciting learning environment. Children's personal, social and emotional development is a priority. The childminder provides lots of opportunities where children spend time with her. Children approach her for cuddles. They copy this affectionate behaviour and cuddle their friends. Children are extremely happy and content. There is a strong ethos throughout the setting of a respectful and nurturing environment.

The childminder promotes positive attitudes to learning effectively. She creates an organised, interesting environment. This supports children to be calm and relaxed and absorb information. From a young age, children are taught to be kind and share resources. They help their friends when learning to use a slide. Children show enthusiasm, curiosity and engagement when a learning opportunity occurs. For example, children join in singing. They excitedly dance to music and copy the childminder's actions. Children reach up tall like a giraffe and stomp like an elephant. Children role model the actions for their friends. Their behaviour is exemplary.

The childminder has very high expectations for children's learning and development. Children make excellent progress, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). The childminder provides a range of engaging activities. For instance, from a young age, children grow vegetables in the garden. They learn responsibility and patience as they develop their knowledge on the life cycles of the different vegetables. The childminder teaches children new vocabulary, such as 'potato', 'cucumber' and 'tomatoes'. The childminder encourages children to learn about risk. Young children confidently climb up a climbing frame and swing from the bars. They hang with their legs off the ground. Children thrive at this setting.

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

- The childminder is skilled at enhancing activities. Children look at photos of themselves and their friends engaging in activities. They talk about their friends and recall the activities. The childminder introduces photos that parents have brought in. Children are encouraged to talk about their family, similarities and differences. The childminder extends the activity to teach children about the different job roles of parents. Children are deeply interested and engaged.
- Children have exciting opportunities to learn about nature. They go to the 'undeveloped area' in the garden to explore the natural environment. Children excitedly search and collect different coloured leaves, counting as they do so. The childminder encourages children to sort leaves into size and colour. She teaches children about more and less. Children develop an understanding of

mathematics from a young age.

- Children develop excellent communication and language skills. The childminder completes a language assessment on all children in her setting. She positively role models language through conversation. The childminder is skilled in encouraging children to copy and repeat single words. She asks children thoughtful questions. This results in children thinking about what they are seeing and doing. Children enthusiastically explain in detail. They develop their conversational skills. Children become highly confident in using language.
- The childminder develops children's imagination through exciting activities. She teaches children to use pegs to sprinkle 'magic dust' to open books. The childminder teaches children to use their thumb and index finger to open and close pegs. Children strengthen their small muscles as they create magic.
- Children are physically active at this setting. They engage in 'beat the street'. Children excitedly recall walking around the community. They check in with electronic cards on lampposts with electronic boxes on. The childminder teaches children about distance as they develop their large muscles and physical skills.
- The childminder teaches children from a young age to become increasingly independent in managing their personal needs. Children understand and show good personal hygiene at snack time and lunchtime. They independently wash their hands before they eat. Children are taught to put their shoes and outdoor weather suits on when they go outside. The childminder gives verbal guidance and encouragement. Children demonstrate high levels of self-control and consistently keep on trying, even if they encounter difficulties.
- The childminder has an excellent understanding of children's development. She completes observations and assessments to fully identify where a child is in their development. The childminder has thorough processes in place to track all children. This ensures children's individual progress, strengths and areas needing support are clear. The childminder uses this information to inform children's next steps in learning.
- Partnership working is excellent. The childminder has links with schools and professionals to support children's continuity of care. Parents report that communication sharing is excellent. The childminder shares information with parents through an online messaging service, individual learning journals and verbally. She provides parents with activities so they can continue their child's learning at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	302681
Local authority	Barnsley
Inspection number	10408283
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 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	15
Date of previous inspection	29 January 2020

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2000 and lives in Barnsley. She operates all year round from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a relevant qualification at level 4. She provides funded early education.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jackie Ward

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector around the premises and discussed how she ensures that they are safe and suitable.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how she organises the early years provision, including the aims and rationale for the curriculum.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views of the setting and staff with the inspector.
- Children communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the children.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about how she supports children with SEND.
- The childminder and the inspector carried out a joint observation during play.

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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