

Childminder report

Inspection date: 6 July 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 very experienced childminder has an extremely calm and caring manner, and is an excellent role model for children to follow. Consequently, children thoroughly enjoy the time they spend in this friendly and wholly supportive environment. They eagerly participate in the exciting and innovative experiences the childminder provides. For instance, children have enormous fun in the pretend café, where they serve pizza and home-made ice cream to their friends. The childminder expertly extends children's play to maximise their learning opportunities. She asks tricky questions to make children think, and introduces discussions to widen their vocabulary. Older children express themselves clearly, and younger children are keen to communicate.

The childminder has a highly consistent and sensitive approach to managing behaviour. Children behave exceptionally well. They quickly learn right from wrong, and how being kind is a bonus for everyone. The childminder has very high expectations. Children confidently manage their own self-care needs from a very early age. For example, they go to the toilet independently, use excellent hand hygiene, and remind each other about sun safety. When they choose to play outdoors, they know they must wear hats and shoes. Together, older children carry the shoe box to younger children and help with the fasteners on their shoes. The childminder offers children a great deal of praise and encouragement. This contributes to the remarkable levels of confidence and self-esteem that children demonstrate.

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

- The childminder and her co-minder have a superb drive for continuous improvement. They have extremely high expectations of each other and work closely with assistants. Support and supervision sessions offered are strong. For instance, their assistants carry out training, such as fire safety, oral health and autism awareness. This helps to maintain and enhance the outstanding quality of teaching across the whole setting. Children continue to receive high-quality learning experiences and excellent care.
- The childminder puts children's emotional well-being at the centre of everything she does. She is extremely attentive and consistently supports children's welfare. She recognises when children may be tired and want to relax or play quietly. Alternatively, she sees that other children may have lots of energy, and need time and space to be boisterous and engage in physical play. With this in mind, she ensures there is a wide range of resources and experiences readily available, with plenty of space for children to play. The outdoor space is magical for children of all ages. It prompts children to use their imagination and curiosity. Children count daisies and tend to plants. They care for a litter of rabbits and

read in a dark den.

- Parents are extremely happy with the care provided by the childminder and co-minder, in particular their constant support through the lockdown period. They say the childminder 'goes the extra mile for the children and their families'. They welcomed advice and resources to help them support their children more effectively at home. They say they are very much involved in their children's learning and development, and see amazing progress in their children's confidence and speech.
- The childminder makes careful and perceptive observations as children play. She uses her findings to inform precise assessments of their learning. This helps to ensure all children, including those with additional needs and funding, are fully supported to quickly develop skills across all areas of learning. Regular sharing of family information ensures the childminder forms highly effective partnerships with parents and other professionals.
- The curriculum for communication and language is highly effective. The childminder builds on the words children already know. She uses hand signs and actions daily in a happy 'Song Box' activity, where babies bounce to well-known rhymes and older children sing with enthusiasm. The childminder encourages all children, however young, to think, predict and generate ideas. For instance, children play at the water table with pipettes, test tubes and measuring jugs. Children are making exceptional progress, particularly in their interactions with others.
- The childminder promotes healthy lifestyles, providing well-balanced snacks and reminding children to drink water during hot weather. Children enjoy being able to develop their independence skills, such as cleaning their teeth after breakfast and wiping their hands and faces unaided. At snack time, they find their named table mats and sort cups and plates. This supports children's mathematical and literacy skills. Children gain a strong foundation for their future learning, ensuring that they are well prepared for the next steps in their education.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a robust knowledge of safeguarding policies and procedures. She knows how to identify any concerns about a child's welfare and how to report these promptly to the appropriate authorities. The childminder is aware of wider safeguarding issues, and understands her responsibilities should an allegation arise. The childminder's premises are carefully risk assessed to help minimise any potential hazards. Detailed documentation means the day-to-day management runs smoothly, and children are very well protected. Rigorous monitoring of the environment, activities and outings means both childminders are always perfectly placed to protect children and to maximise learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	303057
Local authority	Rotherham
Inspection number	10117206
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 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	20
Date of previous inspection	23 August 2013

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1999. She lives in a house in Wickersley, near Rotherham. She operates all year round from 7am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and two weeks at Christmas. The childminder works with a co-childminder. Both hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The childminder regularly works with an assistant. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. Occasional overnight accommodation can be arranged upon request.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Jan Harvey

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 provider.
- The childminder led the inspector on a learning walk to establish the priorities for the curriculum.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- Discussions took place with the childminder, co-minder and assistant at suitable times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector invited children and parents to share their views. The inspector took account of all feedback received.
- The childminder showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of the assistants working with her and her co-minder.

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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