

Childminder report

Inspection date:

5 July 2022

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

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

The childminder and her co-childminder work as an effective team. They carefully evaluate their provision and analyse how children use the areas. They work out what works best and maximise the opportunities for children to make choices. Children quickly settle into the routines of the setting and chat with their friends. Children make independent choices on the direction of their play from the available resources, and become engaged in their chosen activity.

Children behaviour is exemplary. The childminder and her co-childminder set a good example through their gentle and considerate manner towards the children. They set clear and consistent boundaries, which help children to understand the rules and make good choices. Children learn to share and are developing friendly relationships. Older children are self-assured and develop a cheeky sense of humour. They have great fun as they play interactive games on the computer. Younger children laugh and sing as they play 'schools'.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the childminder recognised the importance of maintaining relationships with children to ensure their well-being. She understands the importance for children to take time to settle again on their return and socialise with other children. She values the need to reassure parents of their anxieties.

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

- The childminder skilfully uses her garden to extend children's knowledge of the world. Children develop an exceptionally good understanding of growth and development. For example, they plant strawberries and herbs, water them and watch them grow. Children are involved in the preparation of food. They help harvest strawberries from the garden and make their own fruit salad.
- The childminder offers a wide range of resources. She regularly changes the resources she has on display to represent children's interests or topics which they are learning about at school. Younger children develop an understanding of phonics, as they play games that help them to learn about letters and the sounds they represent.
- The childminder and her co-childminder provide children with exciting experiences to develop their curiosity and knowledge about the natural world. Children are fascinated by the chicks that have recently hatched and been brought in by a parent. They learn how to handle them safely. Children are excited to show the visiting inspector the nesting hedgehogs and birds in the garden.
- The childminder and co-childminder are effective at teaching children the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle. Children walk to and from school each

day and benefit from daily access to physical activities, such as football. They have trips to the woods, where they explore and take risks. They follow robust hygiene practices. Children know that they need to wash their hands regularly to kill germs and prevent the spread of viruses.

- Children report that they enjoy the time they spend at the childminder's home. They like the many games and activities available to them. During discussions with children, the childminder listens with interest to what children have to say and responds with enthusiasm. As a result, children confidently share their experiences and describe to the childminder what they are doing.
- Children have a good understanding of how to keep themselves safe. They have access to computer games for a short period of time. Children understand the importance of internet safety. They explain that they can only play age-appropriate games in the childminder's home.
- Partnerships with parents are effective. Parents are confident that the children are safe and secure. Regular newsletters and messages ensure that parents are kept well informed of activities in the setting. Parents' comments are very positive about the childminder. They say that the childminder provides 'outstanding care, goes above and beyond' and 'is appreciated hugely'.
- The childminder continually evaluates her practice and accesses training to drive improvement. She attends local networking groups online and responds to changes in the early years sector. The childminder seeks the views of parents and children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Robust procedures are in place if the childminder has any concerns about a child's welfare. She has a secure understanding of the different types of abuse and how children may present if they are at risk. She is mindful of wider aspects of safeguarding, including the 'Prevent' duty and exploitation. The childminder gives high priority to children's safety. She is alert when she supervises children and practises regular evacuation procedures, so that even the youngest children know what to do in an emergency. The childminders complete safeguarding training regularly to ensure that their knowledge is up to date.

Setting details

Unique reference number	310790
Local authority	Kirklees
Inspection number	10117212
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	5 to 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	28
Date of previous inspection	25 November 2014

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1993 and lives in the Meltham area of Holmfirth. The childminder operates all year round, from 7.30am until 9am and from 3pm until 6pm, during term time and from 7.30am to 6pm, during school holidays. She does not work during bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a relevant early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Julie Dent

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 her evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how she ensures that they are safe and suitable.
- The inspector spoke to children to find out about their time at the setting.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity with the childminder and co-childminder.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- 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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