

Childminder report

Inspection date: 15 June 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

Children thrive in this warm, caring and highly stimulating environment. The childminder uses extremely good settling-in procedures so that children feel happy and safe. She works at parents' and children's pace to ensure that the move from home is smooth. The childminder provides little gifts for parents, including a pack of 'goodies'. They also receive hand and footprints of their child to ensure that everyone feels special and valued. Parents are very complimentary about the childminder and say that their children develop at a fast pace.

The childminder creates a nurturing environment that is homely. She knows the children extremely well and uses her knowledge of them to provide stimulating activities. These activities incorporate children's interests and their next stage in development. As a result, children make excellent progress and are well prepared for school.

Children are very well behaved. Young children are beginning to share, take turns and work cooperatively. This is demonstrated when they consider different ways of filling a bottle with water. Children are fully engaged in all the activities and show persistence as they attempt to match objects, such as ladybirds and their dots.

Children learn about the different emotions that they experience. The childminder encourages children to use 'emotions stones' as a way of expressing themselves. This helps children to convey how they are feeling more effectively.

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

- The highly skilled childminder regularly reviews and evaluates her practice. She effectively involves parents and children in the process. She clearly identifies her strengths and areas she wishes to improve. She is currently developing a sensory herb garden for the children to explore.
- The childminder updates her knowledge and skills regularly. She ensures that her training is aimed specifically at the needs of the children she currently cares for. As a result, children benefit immensely from her new skills. Recent training has included mathematical development, safety in the sun and special needs.
- Children develop independence and self-care skills from an early age. For example, they make choices about what they would like for snack. The childminder then supports them to cut their own bread and fruit using a child safety knife. Children also complete little tasks, such as getting bowls and drinks for their friends. This boosts their self-esteem and confidence. The childminder brings mathematics into the task when she asks children to find two bowls. Children also count how many pieces of apple they have on their plate. This enhances children's number skills very well.

- Children learn excellent skills in how to stay healthy and be safe. They know that they need to wear sun cream and hats on a sunny day, and help to apply their own cream. In addition, they learn how to wash their hands correctly to get rid of the germs. Children benefit from very healthy meals and snacks. They grow a variety of fruit and vegetables in the garden and help to harvest and prepare their produce for snacks.
- The childminder helps children to learn about oral hygiene extremely effectively. They use a set of imitation teeth to practise their brushing skills. The childminder provides a sand timer to help children judge how long they need to brush for. The childminder also models how to brush teeth correctly. As a result, children develop an excellent understanding.
- The childminder supports the development of children's communication and language skills exceptionally well. For example, she provides bubbles so that young children learn how to blow. This helps them to develop facial movements associated with speech. In addition, she extends children's sentences by modelling language and adding in extra words. The childminder also teaches children the sign language Makaton so they learn that we communicate in different ways. As a result, children's speech develops rapidly.
- The children play with an exceptional range of resources inside and outside that support their development across all areas of learning. All resources are at child height, so that children can make choices. Many of the resources are loose parts and children use them in a variety of ways to enhance their creativity. The childminder also ensures that her resources are made from natural materials to excite children's senses.
- The childminder is adept at using incidents that occur to extend learning even further. For example, as children play in the fruit-scented water, they discover that stones sink. The childminder then encourages the children to find objects that float, such as corks and logs. Children have fun experimenting. Consequently, they learn about the world around them.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an excellent knowledge of child protection procedures. She attends additional safeguarding training and understands wider safeguarding issues, including extreme views and behaviours. She works closely with social care, as and when needed. The childminder knows how to report concerns to keep children safe. She has thorough risk assessments in place to ensure that children are kept safe in her home and on outings. First-aid training is updated regularly and all the required records for the safe management of the setting are reviewed. As a result, children are protected very well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY242721
Local authority	Leeds
Inspection number	10117339
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	2 to 6
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	8 February 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2002 and is based in Leeds, West Yorkshire. She offers care from Monday to Thursday all year round, except for family and bank holidays. The childminder has a relevant early years qualification at level 5. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Helene Terry

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 the evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder and inspector discussed the planning of the curriculum and how the setting and resources are used.
- The inspector observed the activities.
- The inspector had discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of adults in the setting.
- The inspector took the written views of parents into account.

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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