

Childminder report

Inspection date:

19 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

Children thrive in the care of this experienced and dedicated childminder. The childminder has an exceptional understanding of how children learn. She expertly plans a curriculum that thoughtfully and skilfully incorporates children's interests. This maximises children's learning. Children display remarkably high levels of well-being. They are highly motivated in their play and sustain concentration for extended periods of time.

The childminder provides children with a wonderful range of experiences. For example, children visit the seaside, view exhibitions at museums, visit places of worship and sit in the engines at the local fire station. These experiences enhance children's learning, and promote a sense of curiosity and wonder in the world around them.

Children's behaviour is impeccable. The childminder has high expectations for children's behaviour. Children respond very well to her gentle reminders to remember their manners and listen during story times. Children show that they understand the need for rules and follow them. For instance, they recall how they stay in the shade during their trip to the woods. The childminder and her assistant are incredibly good role models. They communicate positively, and show manners and respect. Children are wonderfully considerate of each other. They listen to each other and manage minor conflicts independently.

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

- The childminder has developed an ambitious curriculum which focuses on providing children with real experiences that promote their development across all areas of learning. She plans activities that are relevant and meaningful to children. This helps children to remain focused and interested in their learning. Consequently, children build the knowledge and skills which they need for their future learning.
- The childminder shows a genuine interest in the life of each child. She spends time getting to know them, their families and their life outside of her setting. The childminder understands children's individual needs and how to support them exceptionally well. The childminder and her assistant's interactions are of a consistently high quality. They understand when to engage with children. The childminder and her assistant also understand when it benefits children to step back and allow them to lead their own learning. This means that children develop a sense of independence and a love of learning.
- Children demonstrate a powerful sense of self. The childminder actively seeks out children's opinions. She provides them with choices throughout the day, such as deciding together what they will have for lunch and snack. This helps

children to understand democracy, other people's views and develop negotiation skills. It also helps children to develop essential personal skills.

- The childminder supports children's language skills superbly. She talks about what the children are doing and introduces new vocabulary in ways that are meaningful for children. For example, while playing in the mud kitchen, children talk about making soup. The childminder asks if they can make 'mulligatawny soup'. Children are articulate and communicate with others with increasing confidence.
- The childminder supports children's literacy skills in exciting and interesting ways. She nurtures a love of books and stories beautifully through her engaging and exciting storytelling. The childminder extends children's learning by setting up story scenes which bring books to life, and provoke thoughtful discussions. Children enthusiastically recall and recite parts of their favourite stories throughout the day.
- Parents are complimentary about the childminder and her assistant. They speak positively about how the childminder supports their children's learning and development. Parents are particularly impressed by the range of experiences and opportunities provided by the childminder. They state that their children develop exceptionally well in their personal and social development.
- The childminder completes accurate assessments of children's development and regularly updates parents about their children's progress. She provides ideas of how parents can support their children's learning at home. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the childminder continued to offer support to families. For instance, she held virtual weekly group meetings and read children stories through video calls. This helped to minimise the impact of the pandemic on children's development.
- The childminder places a high importance on her own professional development and that of her assistant. They attend regular training, network with other early years professionals and spend time researching so that their knowledge and practice is always of a high quality.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder makes sure that children's safety is paramount. She has robust policies and risk assessments in place. The childminder understands her responsibilities to keep children safe from harm. She has an impressive understanding of the indicators that a child's welfare may be at risk. Further to this, the childminder ensures that her assistant's knowledge is strong by ensuring that he has regular child protection training. The childminder and her assistant know the swift action which needs to be taken to protect children, including local procedures and what to do if an allegation is made against one of them.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY320106
Local authority	Wakefield
Inspection number	10117393
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	1 to 9
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	11
Date of previous inspection	19 May 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Wakefield. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. She holds a childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder works with her husband, who is her assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Natalie Stringer

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 setting
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about her intentions for children's learning.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- The childminder and inspector discussed how the curriculum had been implemented and the impact that this had on children's learning.
- 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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