

Childminder report

Inspection date: 14 June 2022

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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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 flourish and are highly motivated to learn. The childminder puts lots of thought into the planning and preparation of the exceptional indoor and outdoor environments. She gives careful consideration to children's interests. The childminder uses the local area extensively to broaden the range of learning experiences offered to children. She has completed a forest school qualification in order to develop her provision. The childminder provides regular sessions for children in the woodlands near her home. She offers children inspiring activities to learn about and experience nature. Young children demonstrate high levels of confidence, independence and self-reliance, as the childminder shows them how to manage tasks for themselves. For example, young children learn to clean their hands with hand sanitiser in the woods, before eating the fruit which they cut up for snack.

Children build warm and trusting relationships with the caring, responsive childminder. All children are made to feel special, welcome and included. Children excitedly talk about their family and pets. This actively supports children's sense of belonging and supports them to value differences. Young children learn to manage their own behaviours exceptionally well. They understand the importance of sharing, taking turns, and being kind and caring to their peers.

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

- The childminder is quick to identify any gaps in children's learning and development. She quickly implements strategies to support children and help them catch up in their learning. For example, the childminder skilfully supports children in developing their speech sounds. This enables them to communicate more effectively.
- Children are currently interested in the artwork of an outdoor artist. In the woods, they make faces using the items they collect, such as twigs, grass and pine cones. Children learn to differentiate between their features. They learn about healthy lifestyles. Children grow and nurture produce in the childminder's garden. They thoroughly enjoy visits to a local farm to see where their food comes from.
- The childminder is very calm and uses effective, positive behaviour strategies. Consequently, children's behaviour is exemplary. Children show very high levels of engagement in the activities that are planned for them. They are motivated and excited to get involved and learn. Children are kind and respectful to each other. They share their toys well and help each other to achieve tasks, such as completing a complex number jigsaw.
- The childminder provides children with a language-rich environment. Children continually build and extend their vocabulary through stories, songs and

discussion. They giggle when the childminder sings along to songs, and are fascinated by her use of poetry. Children actively join in the actions to the song, watching the childminder intently for what they need to do next and whether they should be singing.

- Children develop their confidence, strength and physical skills. They practise balancing and climbing during their walks through the woods, and jump over streams. Children manage risks safely under the expert supervision of the childminder.
- The childminder gains a wealth of information from parents about their children. She uses this knowledge to help younger children settle seamlessly from their homes to hers. Parents speak extremely highly of the childminder, commenting that 'she is phenomenal in every way, and they are in awe of what she does with the children.' They say that they can recognise children's learning that comes directly from the childminder.
- The childminder has a vast knowledge of how to support a seamless transition to nursery and school. She has formed excellent relationships with teachers. The childminder makes sure that what she is teaching children reflects what they will learn in the classroom. Consequently, children are extremely well prepared for the move on to school.
- The childminder has extremely effective methods for self-evaluation. She fully includes the views from both children and parents. The childminder has well-established links with professionals and networks. She seeks constantly to improve her practice through self-evaluation, advice and training.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder places high priority on the safety and well-being of the children in her care. She demonstrates an excellent safeguarding knowledge and is able to confidently identify signs of possible abuse, including online dangers and extremism. The childminder fully understands the importance of swiftly making a referral if she has concerns about a child in her care. She completes daily risk assessments of all areas of her home and outside areas she uses. Children learn about how to keep themselves safe. They take part in the risk assessments in the woods, and tell visitors to look out for brambles and nettles.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY390927
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	10117469
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 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	13
Date of previous inspection	27 March 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2009 and lives in the Whirlow area of Sheffield. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Tuesday and Thursday, except for family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. She holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Julie Dent

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder joined the inspector on a learning walk. She talked to the inspector about her curriculum and what she wants children to learn.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of parents' views in written testimonials.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, and reviewed evidence of the suitability of the childminder and other household members.

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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