

Childminder report

Inspection date: 24 January 2020

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder works closely with her assistant. Together they provide a relaxed and homely environment where children feel emotionally safe and secure. Younger children are happy and their confidence is developing well; they show a strong sense of belonging. The childminder encourages children to choose resources independently and move around the available space to make the most of their play. For example, young children self-select paintbrushes, which they dip in water to make marks on a chalk board. This helps to develop their early writing skills. The childminder promotes respect and understanding with children and she has high expectations for their conduct. She offers continual praise and encouragement, which raises children's self-esteem. The childminder and her assistant supervise children well. They complete risk assessments to ensure the environment, resources and equipment are safe and suitable for children. The childminder learns from any risks or issues identified and takes appropriate action to prevent them from happening again. The childminder works closely with parents to meet children's individual care needs. She recognises the importance of children becoming independent before they start nursery or school. The childminder interacts skilfully with children to support their developing communication skills. She offers plentiful opportunities for children to look at books and listen to stories.

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

- The childminder uses ongoing observations to understand children's level of achievement, interests and learning styles. She incorporates their next steps in learning into her planning. This has a strong impact on helping children achieve and develop their knowledge and skills in all areas of learning.
- Children's physical development is well supported and they regularly visit the local country park and castle with the childminder. Furthermore, the childminder provides children with regular opportunities to learn age-appropriate social skills. They go to a weekly playgroup to mix with their peers and they enjoy regular trips to the library. The childminder promotes children's awareness of how to keep themselves healthy and manage their personal hygiene.
- The childminder places a sharp focus on supporting children's speech and language development. She is an effective role model. For example, she introduces young children to a wide range of new words and uses simple sentences and repetitive phrases during their play. This supports children's growing vocabulary and speaking skills.
- The childminder encourages parents to bring their children for settling-in visits before they start. This supports children's sense of belonging. In addition, the childminder follows the home routines of younger children regarding meals and rest times. This helps children to make a smooth move to her setting and they settle with ease. However, the childminder does not gather sufficiently robust

information from parents about children's stage of development. Therefore, she cannot ensure she is clear about their individual characteristics and learning styles from the onset of care.

- The childminder follows a programme of professional development. She completes mandatory training along with her assistant, and they both attend the local authority networking groups. The childminder works closely with other childminders to share good practice. However, the childminder does not focus her ongoing development on raising the quality of teaching to the highest level.
- The childminder communicates with parents regularly and they appreciate the updates they receive about their children's achievements. Parental feedback is positive about children's care and learning.
- The childminder supports children's early literacy skills and their understanding of the world. Younger children select their favourite interactive books. They enjoy having cuddles with the childminder as she reads stories to them. Children show an interest in early technology as they use the age-appropriate cause and effect toys. They learn about letters, numbers and sounds as they press the keys on the activity centre.
- Children learn about appropriate ways in which to behave because the childminder promotes consistent boundaries. Together with her assistant, she offers children clear explanations about their behaviour and the impact this can have on their friends. They work closely with parents to promote a shared approach to behaviour management.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder and her assistant attend regular child protection training, including those made available by the local authority. This ensures that their knowledge of safeguarding is consistently up to date. They regularly review their policies and procedures to ensure they contain and share accurate information with parents. The childminder demonstrates a good knowledge and understanding of how to protect the children in her care. She is able to identify the possible signs and symptoms of abuse. She knows what to do if she has a concern about a child and needs to make a referral. This has a positive impact on children's welfare.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To further improve the quality of the early years provision, the provider should:

- gather more specific information from parents before children start, to ensure there is a clear understanding of children's individual characteristics and interests, in order to build on what they already know and can do
- explore further professional development opportunities that focus more precisely on raising the quality of teaching.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY424726
Local authority	Doncaster
Inspection number	10074735
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 10
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	21 June 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in the Conisbrough area of Doncaster. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with a registered assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lindsay Dobson

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector around the areas of her home used for childcare. She talked about the different activities she provides to support children's learning and development.
- The inspector observed activities and assessed the quality and impact of teaching on the children's learning. She spoke with the childminder, her assistant and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The childminder discussed with the inspector her plans for ongoing professional development and continuous improvement.
- The inspector looked at a selection of documents, including evidence of suitability checks and statutory documents, such as the first-aid certificate and public liability insurance.

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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