

Childminder report

Inspection date: 21 February 2024

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

The nurturing childminder has an excellent knowledge of each child and their needs, which she meets to the highest level. This helps new babies and children, attending since they were babies, thrive, feel happy and safe. They excel in their learning. The childminder is an excellent role model who affords each child high levels of respect and courtesy. This is reflected in children's excellent social skills and behaviour.

The childminder expertly plans a rich and limitless curriculum and demonstrates first-class teaching and knowledge of how children learn. She creates a richly resourced environment and adapts activities with great thought, in response to each child's development stage. For example, babies and children develop key skills, such as small-muscle strength and hand-eye coordination, while excitedly taking part in rice play. Babies curiously scoop rice and bang metal objects together. Two-year-old children use large plastic tweezers to grasp pom-poms scattered in the tray. They fill unique metal utensils while making 'dinner'. Three-year-old children carefully pour rice into plastic tubs to balance the weighing scales while learning mathematical concepts.

Children are deeply engrossed in activities and develop a wealth of skills and knowledge in readiness for going to school in September. For example, three-year-old children show amazing articulation and recall while talking about planting seeds. Such activities begin with children visiting the garden centre. They choose what they would like to grow, and they learn about how to care for living things and the sequence in which things grow.

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

- The childminder works in superb partnership with parents to settle children in, establish their developmental stage and help them progress rapidly. She meticulously assesses children's learning. Parents add special moments, home activities and events and photos and videos, for instance, to electronic information systems. This helps to inform the childminder's exceptional planning for children's future learning, taking excellent account of their uniqueness, character and interests.
- The childminder inspires parents to support children's learning. For example, she creates unique home-activity packs that link to children's targeted next steps, shared alongside monthly newsletters. Newsletters recap and evaluate previous learning, share the next month's focus and provide helpful information on many childcare subjects.
- The childminder promotes children's early language superbly through expert interactions, books and stories, which children love. The childminder's skilful,

animated storytelling sustains children's attention to the highest level. She explains the meaning of complex words, such as 'magnificent', and reinforces favourite stories through exciting follow-up activities.

- The childminder uses songs to expand children's rapidly growing communication skills. Children have great fun dipping into the home-made music bag to find enticing resources, such as tapping sticks, dancing scarves and percussion eggs. Babies delight in shaking these when they discover the sounds they make.
- The childminder helps children to develop impressive early mathematics and literacy skills. For example, children use chunky paintbrushes to make and follow patterns, such as a zig-zag or spiral, in rice. They count and roll different-sized pine cones down plastic guttering and recognise quantities beyond 10 as they count out pom-poms. Children take library books and story sacks home to share with parents.
- The childminder skilfully asks three-year-old children challenging questions that make them think as they use weighing scales. She asks, 'Can you tell me which side is heavier and why?' and uses phrases such as, 'Let's keep experimenting, so we can figure things out.'
- The childminder constantly motivates children and extends their learning. For example, as children spontaneously make their own music, the childminder explains how the density and volume of metal impacts on the sounds the utensils make. When babies copy the childminder as she bangs the metal container with the spoon, she asks them, 'Are you using your spoon to tap, tap, tap?'
- Children develop high levels of confidence and independence. For example, they take off their wellies and waterproof suits, chop fruit, serve the hearty, home-made healthy lunch and carefully pour water from small jugs. The childminder prepares children exceptionally well for key development milestones, such as reading stories and providing role play with dolls in readiness for toilet training.
- The childminder helps children to feel special, learn about the uniqueness of their family and celebrate achievements together. For example, during activities, such as circle time, she shares photos and videos that parents provide.
- The childminder's qualification, first-class reflective practice and continued professional development have a significant impact on her practice. As part of this, she has recently started an early years professional development programme. The childminder implements new ideas from this, such as creating weather boxes, to enrich outdoor learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY469097
Local authority	Kirklees
Inspection number	10308435
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 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	9 March 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2013. She lives in the Milnsbridge area of Huddersfield. The childminder has an assistant registered for emergency back-up care only. The childminder operates all year round, from 6.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday, except during bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder provides funded early education for three-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Rachel Ayo

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 childminder.
- The inspector observed the suitability and safety of the childminder's home and garden.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning. She held discussions with the childminder to understand how she organises the early years setting and implements her curriculum.
- The childminder and the inspector carried out a joint evaluation of an activity.
- The inspector spoke to children and gained parents' views through questionnaires, emails and feedback forms within children's records of learning.
- The childminder shared a variety of relevant documents with the inspector.

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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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