

Childminder report

Inspection date:

19 December 2023

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

The childminder is exceptionally nurturing and loving. Babies and children, all aged under three years old, have excellent attachments to her. This helps them to feel safe, confident, happy and emotionally secure. The learning environment is exemplary. The childminder enriches this, for instance, with homemade resources, such as sensory jars filled with coloured water and sequins, and a celebration of diversity. The childminder is passionate and demonstrates first-class teaching, inspired by a wealth of continued professional development. She provides expansive and challenging educational programmes, which motivate children to the highest level and help them to excel in their learning.

Children have a zest for learning. They are engrossed in their play and have immense fun. The childminder expertly plans a limitless range of activities and experiences that prepare children for their next stage of learning. For example, babies learn about the world around them as they curiously explore unique tactile media. Children show excellent focus as they make marks in coconut flour using tools, such as a soft pastry brush and sticks.

The childminder is an excellent role model. This is reflected in children's remarkable behaviour, social skills and friendships. For example, children play together imaginatively in inventive role-play areas that reflect real-life experiences. They buy food from the supermarket, take this back home to cook and style each other's hair. The childminder uses stories, props and other visual aids with great success to help children to identify, recognise and explore their emotions.

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

- The childminder diligently assesses children's development and actively involves parents. This accelerates children's learning and takes excellent account of their emerging interests and uniqueness. For example, parents complete regular progress updates, which help the childminder to meticulously plan for children's next steps in development.
- The childminder shares activity ideas, library books and resources with parents. She also shares information about how young children learn and how parents can support key aspects of children's development, such as their early speech.
- The childminder reinforces and deepens children's knowledge through photos, interactive displays, videos and outings, such as to the garden centre and woods to act out stories. Children gain exciting experiences, for instance, as visitors deliver interactive animal workshops during toddler group sessions.
- The childminder has a comprehensive knowledge of each child through excellent parent partnerships. This starts with meticulously planned settling-in programmes where she gathers a wealth of information.

- Babies flourish in this setting. The childminder cuddles them and uses positive expressions and a loving sing-song voice. Babies respond by smiling, making sounds and waving their arms and legs in excitement.
- Children demonstrate impressive language skills. The childminder creates a language-rich environment. She undertakes targeted training and partakes in early communication programmes and initiatives. Children show a sheer delight of stories and singing, which creates a joyful atmosphere.
- The childminder further ignites children's love of books, for example, through audio story boxes and characters from the story. She encourages children's recall of favourite stories through activities, such as making gingerbread dough. The childminder demonstrates wonderfully engaging storytelling techniques.
- Children develop high levels of independence. For example, they choose, peel and chop fruit at snack time. The childminder encourages children to have a go, such as unzipping their lunch box, taking lids off of tubs and removing their yoghurt lid. Children thrive on the praise they receive, which fosters their self-esteem.
- Children develop excellent small-muscle strength. For example, while playing with coconut flour, they scoop, fill and pour using miniature wooden jugs and vases, small plant pots and plastic jars. Children press dried citrus fruit, cinnamon sticks and pine cones into dough, creating interesting patterns. As children develop greater control, they learn to use pipettes, tweezers and spring-loaded scissor tongs, for instance, during innovative activities.
- The childminder plans activities, such as toddler yoga, and encourages children to throw beanbags into an empty box. Children also attend a gymnastics group. These activities help to promote children's large-physical skills. Babies develop strength in their legs as they giddily bounce up and down on the childminder's knee as she sings.
- The childminder expertly expands children's learning. For example, she asks children how many scoops of coconut flour it will take to fill up the small plastic jar. She encourages children's thinking skills by asking what will happen if they pour the flour onto the small metal sieve. The childminder introduces ample early mathematical language, such as 'small', 'bigger' and 'half full'.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder gives the utmost priority to children's welfare. She continually adds to the wealth of information she maintains in her designated safeguarding file. The childminder carries out meticulous risk assessments to ensure children's good health and safety. She has completed training that covers a wealth of subjects that promote children's safety and welfare and protects them from harm. The childminder has an in-depth knowledge of the possible indicators of abuse and of how to report any concerns. She closely supervises children and reminds them of safe practices, such as remembering to stay at the table until they have finished eating.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY470221
Local authority	Rotherham
Inspection number	10305477
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	0 to 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	12
Date of previous inspection	22 February 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2013 and lives in Wickersley, Rotherham. She operates during term time, from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-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 setting.
- The inspector observed the suitability and safety of the home.
- 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 viewed written feedback from parents.
- The childminder shared a variety of relevant documents, including children's records of learning and training certificates.

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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