

Childminder Report

Inspection date

6 May 2015

Previous inspection date

4 November 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children are extremely enthusiastic, keen and inquisitive learners. They enjoy a wide range of stimulating and exciting, well-planned activities. The quality of teaching is very good. Consequently, children make rapid progress and are well prepared for their next stage in learning, such as starting school.
- Assessment of children's progress is highly focused and accurate. The childminder establishes successful partnerships with parents and other provisions to promote high levels of continuity in children's care and learning.
- Children flourish in the vibrant and stimulating learning environment provided, both indoors and outdoors. An abundance of high-quality resources effectively support children in their progress.
- Children are extremely settled and secure because they form close bonds and attachments with the childminder and her assistant. There is a very relaxed, friendly atmosphere and children are clearly happy.
- Children's safety and well-being are of paramount importance to the childminder. She is highly attentive to children's needs and is constantly vigilant in making sure that any hazards are successfully minimised. Safeguarding procedures are fully understood and the childminder regularly updates her training in this crucial area of practice.
- The childminder manages her setting in a most professional and organised way. She has a strong commitment to continuous improvement and robust systems in place for gauging the strengths and weaknesses of her provision. This involves parents and children, and results in excellent quality care and learning experiences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide even more opportunities for those children who learn better outdoors to develop an interest in sound and rhythm, for example, by providing more opportunities to experience music outdoors.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the childminder, her assistant and children during the inspection.
- The inspector discussed self-evaluation.
- The inspector looked at a sample of policies, documents and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder and the suitability of other household members aged over 16 years.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents.

Inspector

Helene Terry

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

Children freely choose to play inside or outdoors and pursue their own interests. The excellent learning opportunities outdoors enhance children's development exceedingly well. However, there is scope to further enhance this by extending opportunities for children to explore music outside. Children learn about quantity and weights by investigating sand and water. For example, the childminder helps them discover how much sand will fit into the different sized containers. They also use a pump to force water down guttering, and stop cocks to change the direction of the flow of water. Consequently, children develop an excellent understanding of how things work and happen. The childminder skilfully asks questions. These encourage children to think critically and inspire their explorations. Children make excellent progress in their communication and language skills. Older children chatter about their experiences and interests while listening to stories that relate to life experiences. Their communication skills are further developed as the childminder encourages children to observe how their mouths move when they talk. She encourages them to feel the sounds of words by placing their hands near their mouths. Toddlers delight in using their senses to learn about the world around them. For example, they press, touch and move sensory objects attached to the walls.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Children's emotional well-being is supported superbly and they show high levels of confidence and self-assurance. The childminder tailors settling-in procedures to meet children's individual needs and works alongside parents very well. The childminder is an excellent role model and provides children with very clear consistent boundaries. Therefore, children behave extremely well. Their self-esteem is further supported because their photographs are displayed around the playroom, giving them a strong sense of belonging. In addition, information about what children have done well is displayed to celebrate their achievements. Children have superb opportunities to take part in physical exercise in the fresh air. They also develop an excellent understanding of how to keep themselves safe and healthy through well considered routines and activities.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

This experienced and well-qualified childminder fully understands all aspects of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She strives to continually improve her practice by making the most of training opportunities. The knowledge gained is then used effectively to develop stimulating learning opportunities for children. The childminder's assistants receive very good support and guidance. They have good access to training to improve their skills. Thorough induction procedures and regular supervision is then used exceptionally well to promote their professional development. This ensures children benefit from high-quality care and teaching. The childminder regularly reviews her teaching so that it matches children's individual needs. As a result, they make the best progress that they can.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY258097
Local authority	Barnsley
Inspection number	872655
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	20
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	4 November 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2003. She lives in Barnsley, South Yorkshire and employs childminding assistants. The childminder operates all year round except for bank holidays and family holidays. She has an early years qualification at level 4.

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