

Childminder Report

Inspection date

8 June 2015

Previous inspection date

16 February 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
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		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder provides a wide range of good quality toys and resources to support children's progress. There is a good balance between adult-led activities and opportunities for children to play and lead their own learning.
- The childminder effectively models good behaviour and has high expectations of children. Therefore, children's behaviour is exemplary. They are caring and show kindness to others.
- Children form exceptional relationships with the childminder. This means children's individual needs are always met extremely well. These nurturing relationships give children the security they need to develop their confidence.
- The childminder's safeguarding knowledge and procedures are good. This helps to ensure children's welfare is protected and they are kept safe from harm. She successfully identifies and minimises potential risks to children.
- Partnerships with other professionals and early years settings that children attend are strong. Therefore, continuity of care and learning is promoted effectively.
- Children follow good hygiene routines. The childminder understands and promotes the benefits of healthy lifestyles through purposeful activities. For example, taking the children to the local park to encourage them to learn new physical skills.
- The childminder organises resources so that children can make decisions about what they want to play with and be independent.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always encourage parents to be fully involved in their children's ongoing learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop ways to support parents more effectively to share information about their children's learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed the childminder engage in a range of learning activities, play and daily care routines with the children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's records, comments from parents and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and family members and discussed self-evaluation.

Inspector

Jane Rushby

Inspection findings

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

The childminder fully understands how children learn and develop. She regularly observes and assesses children's learning and plans for the next steps in their development. Therefore, all children are making good progress. Children use water play to experiment with scooping, filling and emptying, which helps to support their early mathematical skills. They investigate using different materials, such as clay and work with a broad range of tools. Children are given good opportunities to read from the wide selection of resources available. They are also encouraged to recognise and write their name. This means children's early-literacy and writing skills are effectively supported. The childminder constantly engages children in conversation as they play so they develop a good range of vocabulary. Partnerships with parents are effective and the childminder keeps them well informed about their children's day and developmental achievements. However, the childminder does not always encourage them to share information about what their children know and can do.

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

Children are very eager and enthusiastic to play with the varied range of high-quality toys and resources that the childminder provides. The learning environment is highly stimulating and supports children's independence. The garden in particular offers exciting opportunities to explore and interact with nature. As a result, they are effectively developing the skills they need for future learning, in readiness for starting school. The childminder and parents work extremely well together to share information about children's routines so they are secure. The childminder is extremely astute at noticing when children are tired or upset and need a cuddle or quiet time. Children are encouraged to be independent during routines. They wash their hands at the sink and put their own sunhats and shoes on when going outdoors. At lunchtime children are encouraged to open their own lunchboxes and get their lunch out. The childminder praises and encourages children frequently, which gives them confidence and good self-esteem. The childminder is proactive in encouraging children to take turns, share and help one another.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Robust policies and procedures that support children's health, safety and well-being are in place and successfully implemented. The childminder uses reflective practice to review and evaluate her provision and involves parents in this process by asking them to provide written questionnaires in respect of her service. Partnerships with other early years settings, which children attend are strong. This enables the childminder to complement learning which takes place in other provisions. The childminder is highly experienced and well qualified. She continually seeks to update and refresh her knowledge. This greatly benefits the children in both their care and education. Parents speak very highly of the childminder and the service she provides.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY367045
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	863874
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	24
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	16 February 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2008. Her provision operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday, and 7.30am to 9am, then 3.10pm to 5pm on a Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a relevant childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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