

Childminder Report

Inspection date

26 June 2015

Previous inspection date

2 October 2008

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

- The childminder provides an excellent range of highly stimulating activities, indoors and outdoors. She uses inspiring activities to support all children's communication skills. For example, children enjoy using the talking tubes when playing in the garden to communicate with their friends.
- The childminder and her assistant have a comprehensive understanding of children's abilities, skills, likes and interests. They use detailed observations and assessments to make sure children's individual learning needs are central to the planning of activities. They skilfully build on this child-centred environment to support children's excellent progress.
- The childminder makes excellent use of setting-in visits to gather comprehensive information from parents about children's care and learning needs. Consequently, she effectively plans for children's learning from the start and forms extremely strong relationships with children and parents. As a result, children are very happy, safe and secure in the care of the childminder and her assistant.
- The childminder's assistant makes excellent use of his knowledge as an experienced chef to provide extremely healthy and nutritious menus for children. Through the excellent use of the outdoors, children take safe and supervised risks in their play. Children use tools to hammer nails into wooden blocks, and when climbing they clamber up the rocks and use ropes to get down.
- The childminder makes sure safeguarding is at the centre of all activities. She uses her comprehensive risk assessments, vigilance in supervising children and safety checks to keep them safe.
- The childminder's arrangements for monitoring her service are highly successful. Following the last inspection, she now routinely reviews children's progress records and reflects on her service to make sure she consistently promotes exceptional learning outcomes for children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the already excellent teaching when introducing new ideas and activities, by making sure young children are supported to join in at the highest level

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder, assistant and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector evaluated a planned activity with the childminder.
- The inspector discussed the self-evaluation, action planning and children's learning with the childminder, and looked at a selection of children's records, suitability checks and qualification certificates.
- The inspector considered the views of parents, through information provided in parental surveys and discussions with some parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Helen Blackburn

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is excellent. The childminder has high expectations of herself and children. Consequently, children are progressing rapidly, which means they are exceptionally well prepared for school. The childminder is always looking for new and inspiring activities for children. For example, they use rocks to create large pictures. On occasion, she introduces new ideas to younger children that are a little over ambitious. Consequently, at this time children are not highly engaged in their play. The childminder places a strong emphasis on learning outdoors. Children make dens in the bushes, they climb and use rocks to create waterfalls and watering holes for their dinosaurs. The childminder makes very good use of props to involve children in interactive stories. For example, children look for the missing animals around the garden. Furthermore, they use a wide range of vocabulary to talk about the fierce lions, tall giraffes and heavy elephants.

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

The childminder and her assistant know children very well and they sensitively meet their individual needs. The childminder quickly recognises when young children are tired and she provides the cuddles they need when falling asleep. High regard is given to promoting effective hygiene routines, which means children from a young age independently manage their own personal care needs. The childminder makes sure children have high self-esteem, through the effective use of praise. She is very respectful of children's views. Older children suggest activity ideas for the 'I am bored jar'. When they want to do something different, they select an activity from the jar. As a result, children have a strong sense of belonging. The childminder provides excellent opportunities for children to mix socially with others. This, alongside excellent learning experiences, means that children have the confidence and independence skills they need when starting school or nursery.

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

The childminder maintains comprehensive records and implements effective policies and procedures to make sure she keeps children safe. All adults working with children have a secure knowledge of child protection issues, which means children are protected from harm. The childminder and her assistant are well qualified and they make excellent use of training to promote first-rate practice that supports children's exceptional learning. Following training, the childminder places a strong emphasis on child-led play, outdoor learning and exploration using all of the senses. Recruitment and vetting procedures are secure. The childminder regularly monitors her assistant's practice and sets clear goals to improve their performance. The childminder routinely discusses children's progress with parents. She shares ideas and sends resources to extend children's learning at home. Parents' comments are very complementary. They say their child is extremely happy and that they are well informed about their child's day and learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY372144
Local authority	Barnsley
Inspection number	858110
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	15
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	2 October 2008
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2008 and lives in Wombwell, Barnsley. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a degree and holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. She works with an assistant, who holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and a Forest School qualification at level 3. The childminder is trained to offer a Montessori inspired learning environment.

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