

Childminder Report

Inspection date

6 July 2015

Previous inspection date

8 April 2009

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		Good	2
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

- Children are enthusiastic and eager to learn. The childminder joins in play with children to support and motivate them in their learning.
- The childminder makes very good use of her garden to promote children's learning. Children have opportunities to play imaginatively in the log cabin, develop their physical skills by using the ride-on toys, and learn about the world as they observe insects.
- The childminder finds out young children's individual routines for sleeping and feeding through her discussions with parents. She follows these established routines to promote continuity of care.
- Children are happy and settled in this welcoming and friendly setting. They develop close emotional attachments to the childminder and readily go to her for hugs and support with activities.
- The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of how to protect and safeguard children. She uses her effective policies and procedures to promote children's safety and welfare.
- The childminder attends regular training, which ensures that she keeps up to date with current childcare practice. This also helps her to broaden her knowledge and understanding further. The childminder's continuing professional development has a positive impact on children's good progress towards the early learning goals.
- The childminder has formed positive working relationships with other settings that children attend. This encourages information relating to children's achievements in learning to be shared, to further support their continuity of learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Opportunities for children to fully engage in independent learning are not maximised because the layout of the environment does not fully encourage children to initiate their own play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore ways of enhancing opportunities for children to confidently initiate their own play ideas.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the childminder 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 written 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 good

The childminder plans a good selection of exciting activities which effectively build on children's existing knowledge and skills. This successfully supports them to gain the learning they need, in readiness for their move on to nursery or school. The children make good progress. The activities promote their learning across all areas over a period of time. However, the organisation of the resources does not maximise opportunities for independent learning. The children are encouraged to use books to retrieve information. They look at books with images of bugs that are found in the environment, and the childminder relates this to past experiences of nature walks. Children's creative skills are promoted well. They use collage materials to represent butterflies. Younger children explore the different textures of the materials, while the more-able children learn how to make butterflies' wings symmetrical.

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

The childminder treats children with warmth and genuine regard. She praises good behaviour and individual efforts, supporting children's self-esteem. This approach gives them the confidence to embrace new experiences, such as moving on to nursery and school. The children are well behaved, display good manners, and through activities, such as playing skittles, learn how to share and take turns. Therefore, they play well together. Children's health and safety are of the utmost priority. The childminder supports children in adopting healthy lifestyles. She encourages them to drink water regularly and eat healthily. Children learn how to keep themselves safe through daily routines and activities. For example, they learn how to use equipment safely and cross roads on outings.

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

The childminder understands her responsibility to ensure that she meets the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She shares policies and procedures with parents that accurately reflect her practice. The childminder is well qualified and keeps her training up to date. She monitors and evaluates her practice and children's development alongside her co-childminder and assistant. Parents' and children's views are always taken into account. Therefore, the learning outcomes for children are good. The childminder's assistant receives good support and guidance to improve her skills. She has good access to training to support her ongoing personal development, which in turn benefits the children. Written information from parents shows the strong partnerships the childminder has with them. Parents appreciate the flexible attitude and excellent care provided by the childminder, and are confident that their children thoroughly enjoy their time with her.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY321312
Local authority	Barnsley
Inspection number	856948
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	16
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	8 April 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2006 and lives in Barnsley, South Yorkshire. She works with a co-childminder and, occasionally, an assistant. The childminder operates all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She holds an early years qualification at level 3.

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