

Childminder Report

Inspection date

30 July 2015

Previous inspection date

12 February 2010

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 have strong attachments to the childminder. Her outstanding teaching strategies and consistent approach to children's learning enable them to develop high levels of confidence. This is because the childminder provides a warm, friendly and homely environment, where children's happiness is of utmost priority.
- Children's behaviour and attitudes to learning are outstanding. They delight in having freedom to choose where, how and what they learn. Children become deeply engaged in their learning and concentrate for long periods of time. They are extremely well prepared for their next stage of learning.
- Highly positive and trusting partnerships are established with parents. Feedback from parents is extremely positive, capturing their delight that their children are cared for by this childminder. Open and regular communication between parents and the childminder supports parents' involvement in children's learning. This promotes a consistent approach to meeting children's individual needs.
- The childminder displays a very high regard and understanding of her role and responsibility to safeguard children. She has an excellent understanding of how to keep children safe and the procedures to follow if she has concerns about a child.
- The childminder is highly committed to developing the quality of the setting and children's learning. Her pursuit of excellence drives continual improvement.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance and maintain the already excellent teaching strategies by completing further professional development opportunities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playroom and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked through children's assessment records and reviewed a selection of records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability of the childminder and adult members of the household, and evidence of the childminder's training.

Inspector

Emma Allison

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 outstanding. The childminder uses the knowledge she gained through her childcare qualification to plan a wide range of rich and challenging activities which cover the seven areas of learning. She maximises opportunities to develop children's mathematical understanding during play. Children spend long periods of time on planned activities, becoming highly absorbed in their learning. The childminder uses well-timed questions to extend the children's problem-solving and thinking skills and their imagination. Children are motivated to learn and are eager to offer ideas and suggestions to predict what might happen next or to solve problems. They play cooperatively and express their own ideas through role-play activities. The childminder builds on past learning exceptionally well by encouraging children to recall previous events and experiences to deepen their understanding. There are highly effective strategies in place to engage parents in their child's learning. Parents share children's achievements at home to enable the childminder to prepare the children for their next stage in learning. As a result, children make excellent progress.

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

The childminder optimises opportunities for children to develop their independence and self-care skills. Children explore their environment and display high levels of confidence. As a result, they are motivated to learn. Children form secure attachments with the childminder and seek her for comfort and reassurance. This supports their emotional well-being. Children have regular access to fresh air and a wide range of opportunities to develop their physical skills. Behaviour is excellent. The childminder is a very good role model for children. Children form positive relationships with each other and seek others to share their experiences. The childminder supports children to develop an excellent understanding of the importance of following a healthy lifestyle. She works very closely with local schools to support smooth transitions for children moving to school, and prepares children exceptionally well for their next stage in learning.

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

The childminder has rigorous systems in place to review children's learning and to track the progress they make. This enables her to swiftly close any gaps. The childminder displays an excellent knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage and accurately assesses children's learning and development. She has implemented highly effective strategies to involve parents in their children's learning. As a result, children's needs are exceptionally well met. The childminder has rigorous safeguarding practices in place and places a high priority on ensuring children's safety, while creating a stimulating environment for children to explore safely. The childminder is proactive in seeking the views of parents to shape her practice and adapts to the changing needs and interests of children. She targets training to address priority areas. Given her level of expertise, she now recognises the need to widen the source of training to further develop her practice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	321192
Local authority	York
Inspection number	868678
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	12
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	12 February 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1998 and lives in York. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder receives funding for free early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. She holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
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