

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 August 2015

Previous inspection date

26 January 2012

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's emotional and physical well-being are supported extremely well by the caring and nurturing childminder. As a result, children are confident and develop exceedingly strong relationships with the childminder and each other.
- Children thoroughly enjoy the wealth of excellent learning opportunities provided by the childminder. Activities are expertly planned to meet each child's preferred way of learning. As a result, children consistently make rapid progress in their learning.
- Children thrive and are stimulated to learn in this very welcoming, child-centred environment. There is an extremely sharp focus on helping children to acquire communication and language skills and on promoting their physical, personal, social and emotional development.
- The childminder provides children with an extremely healthy balanced diet that promotes their understanding of healthy food choices. Children's outdoor experiences highly promote their physical well-being and understanding of the world.
- The experienced and well-qualified childminder continuously strives for extremely high standards in the service she provides. She achieves this across all areas of her provision through rigorous self-evaluation.
- Exceptionally strong partnerships exist with parents. The childminder keeps them extremely well informed about their children's care and development. Parents are actively involved and highly enthusiastic about working with the childminder to support their children's development.
- The childminder places the utmost importance on safeguarding children. She has an excellent knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures and updates her safeguarding knowledge through appropriate training.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider enriching the outdoor area, in order to promote children's understanding of growth even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities taking place in the lounge and outside in the childminder's garden.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents in written testimonies.
- The inspector carried out a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's observation and assessment records and the register of attendance. She sampled other documentation, including suitability checks for household members.
- The inspector and the childminder discussed the childminder's knowledge of safeguarding, how she supports children's learning and how she evaluates her provision.

Inspector

Catherine Mather

Inspection findings

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

The childminder uses her wealth of knowledge and extensive experience of how children develop to plan for children's learning and development. She expertly matches activities to each child's individual development needs. Children enthusiastically participate in a wide range of exciting learning opportunities. They gain a wealth of skills, ensuring that they are exceptionally well prepared for their move to school. Children's developing writing skills are promoted in a range of ways as they access pens, chalk and water outdoors. The childminder challenges children in their play to maximise their learning. For example, she asks them what they need to make the bubble machine work. She gives them time to work out a strategy to solve the problem and supports them sensitively when necessary. Children complete challenging nursery-rhyme jigsaws and the childminder provides corresponding finger puppets to support their imaginative play, extending their learning further. Consequently, all children make excellent progress as they are fully engaged in a wide range of superb play opportunities.

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

The childminder's obvious enjoyment of her role ensures that children form exceptionally strong bonds and attachments with her. This helps children to feel emotionally secure. Frequent praise and encouragement as they play is highly effective in promoting their confidence and self-esteem. The childminder enthusiastically promotes healthy lifestyles and the importance of exercise. Children delight in dancing and joining in with action songs. When children have been active, the childminder asks them if they feel hot or cold and gets them to have a drink. These conversations help children to understand why they need to have regular drinks to keep themselves hydrated. Children's independence skills are promoted as they set the table, pour their own drinks and help to clear away after meals. Children learn where food comes from as they help to grow and tend the fruit and vegetables in the childminder's garden. The childminder's exemplary role modelling and positive language ensures children learn to speak respectfully to each other.

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

Children's learning and development are supported exceptionally well. The childminder completes regular, detailed assessments of children's abilities and identifies their next steps in learning. The childminder plans a targeted programme of professional development. She attends training, carries out her own research and shares ideas with other practitioners. The childminder continuously strives to improve her provision. She actively seeks out opportunities to extend her professional knowledge and is eager to apply what she learns. The childminder strives to build on her excellent provision and has identified that there are opportunities to provide more exciting growing and planting activities. The childminder has established exceptionally good partnerships with parents, professionals and other providers. This ensures that children's individual needs are consistently well met.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY383967
Local authority	Barnsley
Inspection number	873890
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	26 January 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2008 and lives in the Darfield area of Barnsley. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. She has an early years qualification at level 6.

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