

Childminder report

Inspection date: 21 January 2020

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive in this exceptionally bright, friendly and welcoming setting. They are extremely settled, happy and secure. The childminder skilfully organises her home, helping children to be highly active and independent learners. Children benefit from a wide range of vibrant, high-quality resources that promote sensory development. For example, they use coloured play dough, cones, pebbles and twigs. Children respect and enjoy the freedom given to them to organise their own play in safe surroundings. The childminder understands the huge importance of outdoor play and offers children challenging activities and experiences in her garden. For example, children try to catch bubbles in the air, discover 'treasure' in the soil tray and peer at each other through binoculars.

The childminder is animated and talks about what she is doing, as she supports the children's learning through play. She cleverly uses key words to describe what she does and demonstrates how to do things. For example, she shows children how to roll play dough with a rolling pin, how to flatten it with their hands or how to make grooves with chopsticks.

The childminder is an excellent role model and treats each child with respect. She shares their own learning records with them. Children delight in seeing photographs of themselves at play and understand how they have grown and developed. The childminder has high expectations for all children and consistently promotes good manners.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder is extremely well qualified and experienced. She is clearly passionate about her work and consistently demonstrates high-quality teaching. Her reflective practice is commendable and helps to improve the learning outcomes for children. She regularly looks for ways to gain further skills and widen her professional development.
- Children form very close bonds with the childminder, as she knows them exceptionally well. She carefully builds on what children already know and can do, planning new and inspirational activities to help extend their learning even further.
- Children make excellent gains in their learning and development. They respond well to what the childminder says and shows them. They hear core words in conversations and learn new words in the correct context in their play. For example, they notice and listen to the 'roaring' sounds of an aeroplane flying by and the 'clipping' of horses' hooves on the road. They find a piece of moss in the garden and describe how it feels soft and damp. Children are excited to sit down together and choose objects out of the 'rhyme bag'. Following the childminder's

excellent lead, they join in by singing and moving to the different rhymes and songs chosen. As a result, children's use of language, given their age and stage of development, is advanced.

- The childminder provides a stimulating, learning-rich environment, both indoors and outside. Her expert teaching means that children respond positively and become totally engrossed in their play. Children access the resources easily and show high levels of independence. They are becoming confident learners, taking risks as they climb up and down the steps to the decking. Children look at pictures of typical garden objects. They smile and feel proud when they find them after their 'hunt'.
- Children have ample opportunities to develop their mathematical skills and learn about colour, size and shape. The childminder offers children chance to play, investigate and explore. Children are curious, enthusiastic and highly motivated. They enjoy solving problems and try to work out why the bubble machine stops working.
- The childminder has built very close working partnerships with parents, who value her service highly. They comment on the 'home-from-home' approach and her patience. The childminder shares with parents what she does with the children daily and offers them accurate information about children's ongoing learning and development.
- Children eat healthy and nutritious food, and understand the value of eating together as a social occasion. They happily talk about their likes and dislikes of different fruits and vegetables. Children are well behaved and enjoy the close time spent together at mealtimes.
- The childminder shows consistently that her practice is inclusive. She intuitively knows each child well, including their backgrounds and interests. She uses this information to help each child develop to their full potential, whatever their needs may be. Children have the highest level of care and teaching, to help them progress to the next level in their learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is acutely aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect. She knows what to do if she has concerns about a child's welfare and how to contact the relevant authorities. The childminder has completed training specifically for looking at wider aspects of safeguarding, such as the 'Prevent' duty. She is thorough in promoting all aspects of children's welfare. Her home and garden are safe and secure. She looks very carefully at risks during play activities and routines. This helps to keep potential hazards at bay. Children are well supervised when they go on outings and when in contact with the childminder's dog.

Setting details

Unique reference number	321197
Local authority	York
Inspection number	10117279
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 5
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	11 May 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1991 and lives in York. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder receives funding for free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. She holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lois Wiseman

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during indoor and outdoor activities, and assessed the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder to understand the provision and to see how children's learning is supported.
- The inspector examined a range of documents, including policies and procedures, training certificates and children's learning records.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection and through written feedback provided.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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