

Childminder report

Inspection date: 21 January 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are curious and eager to participate in the stimulating activities that the childminder carefully plans for them. The childminder supports children to achieve well, overall, and prepares them for the next stage in their learning and development. For example, she helps children to progress from using a feeder cup to an open cup. Children practise pouring drinks for each other from different-sized and shaped teapots and cups when they pretend to be at a tea party. The childminder has high expectations for children's success. Children enjoying learning new words. For example, they learn to identify and name arctic animals, such as 'caribou' and 'walrus' as they hunt for them in artificial snow they have made.

Children thoroughly enjoy the time which they spend with the childminder. They are affectionate towards her and welcome her company. This contributes to children's sense of safety and security. Children learn to be confident around their peers and adults. They learn to safely explore the environment in the childminder's clean and well-organised home. Children enjoy regular trips to schools, parks and other places of interest.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the childminder arranged for parents to drop their children off without entering the premises or using entrances used by her family. This contributed to children's safety and well-being. Parents appreciated the close communication the childminder maintained at all times. They comment positively on the many activities which she provided to support children's learning at home.

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

- The childminder is an excellent role model. She encourages children to use good manners and behave well. The childminder constantly uses please and thank you when she interacts with children, and helps them do the same. She supports children to understand and manage their own behaviour.
- Overall, the childminder promotes children's communication skills well. She talks to children in an engaging and gentle manner. The childminder gives children lots of eye contact and frequent smiles. However, she does not consistently deepen children's learning to embed new vocabulary and build fully on their language skills. For example, the childminder sometimes answers questions that she has asked, without giving children time to respond and use new words.
- The childminder encourages children's love of books. She carefully chooses books which engage their interest and enrich their knowledge and experience of the world. Children enjoy listening to the well-read stories. They join in with key phrases and anticipate what will happen next. Children make good use of reference books, posters and videos to find out more about the things that interest them.

- The childminder identifies any gaps in children's learning and development at an early stage. She makes thorough use of information from parents to plan activities that interest children and to help them to make strong progress. The childminder works closely with other settings which children attend, to ensure that she provides maximum continuity in children's care and learning.
- The childminder promotes children's well-being and personal development well. For instance, she involves children in looking after the chickens she keeps. Children enjoy planting and tending to flowers and herbs in the well-maintained garden area. The childminder helps children to understand about the importance of oral health. For instance, children brush giant pretend teeth and listen to relevant stories.
- The well-qualified childminder wants all children to succeed. She carefully evaluates and reflects on her work. The childminder makes use of a wide range of training opportunities to understand more about how young children grow and develop. She systematically plans activities to support children's needs and build on their achievements.
- Parents highly recommend the childminder. They welcome her frequent and detailed communication with them, and the good advice that she provides. Above all, parents appreciate how much their children enjoy each day spent with the childminder.
- Children develop their physical skills well. The childminder helps children to develop their large-muscle skills. For example, children ride different-sized bikes and other toy vehicles, and participate in daily walks and games.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder attends regular safeguarding training and has a good knowledge of the signs that children may be at risk of harm. She knows what to do and who to contact if she has a concern about a child's welfare. The childminder understands the possible indicators that a child or family may be at risk of being drawn into extremist behaviours. She teaches children about road safety and reinforces this on their regular walks. The childminder helps children to play safely indoors and outside.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- extend children's language skills further, for example, by ensuring that children have time to reflect and answer questions.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2512849
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	10207826
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2019 and lives in the area of Parsons Cross, Sheffield, South Yorkshire. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder offers funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. She holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Andrew Clark

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector observed the quality of education and discussed the childminder's teaching practice.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records and a range of other documents, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the childminder's home and garden that children use.
- The inspector spoke to parents and read letters which they sent, to obtain their views on the service that the childminder provides.

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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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