

Childminder report

Inspection date:

28 September 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	Met
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder is committed to providing good quality care and learning for the children. She develops close bonds with the children, ensuring they feel safe and secure in her care. Children are confident to express what they want and how they are feeling. They cuddle with the childminder when they feel tired. Children have good levels of self-esteem. They approach visitors with confidence to show them what they are playing with and share their achievements.

The childminder promotes positive behaviour effectively. She speaks calmly to children and models good manners, such as please and thank you, when talking with the children. Children demonstrate their understanding of the clear rules and expectations the childminder has for them. For instance, they tidy up their toys when they have finished playing. Children know where things belong and take pride in helping with day-to-day routines.

Children's communication and language is promoted at every opportunity throughout the setting. They learn through repetition, simple sounds, and the use of stories. For example, children learn the names of animals and their sounds and associate them as they play with toy farm animals. They look at books about farm animals to embed the learning of new words. Children respond well to the consistent praise they receive from the childminder.

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

- Mathematics is embedded throughout the day. Numbers are used regularly in play. The childminder encourages children to count and use mathematical language, such as 'full' and 'empty'. Children concentrate intently as they complete jigsaw puzzles. They show determination as they try different ways to fit the shapes and are proud when they manage this.
- The childminder offers activities that explore early mark making and writing. For example, children make marks on paper using crayons and use interactive boards. This supports their creative development effectively. Younger children get excited when they notice the different patterns they make.
- The childminder ensures that children are given opportunities to develop their own independence. They are encouraged to manage their own personal hygiene. Children are supported to clean their own hands and faces after eating. Younger children are included in nappy changing, with the childminder speaking to the child first and informing them of what she is about to do before changing them. This prepares children for managing their future hygiene and developing good personal hygiene practices.
- The childminder plans many activities throughout the day for children to take part in. She considers how she can build on what children already know and can

do. However, sometimes, children do not always have the chance to explore activities independently and develop their own ideas and make their own choices.

- The childminder is very reflective and evaluates the experiences for children well. She gathers the views of parents and uses these to plan continuous improvements. The childminder is dedicated and passionate about the quality of the service she provides.
- The childminder focuses her continuous professional development on areas that will best improve her knowledge in supporting the children she cares for. For instance, she plans to complete courses in how best to promote young children's communication and language skills further.
- The childminder has good relationships with parents. She speaks to them at drop off and collection times and uses digital messages to send photos of children's achievements during the day. Feedback from parents is very positive. They comment on her kind nature and how happy their children are in her care. Parents value the wide range of experiences their children enjoy.
- The childminder encourages children to follow healthy lifestyles. For example, children have plenty of opportunities to be outside in the fresh air visiting local parks and attractions. The childminder provides healthy snacks, such as fruit. However, she does not consistently share how she promotes good oral health to ensure that all drinks provided by parents are healthy. Children drink juice rather than water.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has attended training in wider aspects of safeguarding, food hygiene and first aid. She has a robust understanding of the signs and symptoms of neglect and abuse. A thorough safeguarding policy details steps to be taken if concerns arise about a child's welfare, with all the relevant and up-to-date contact details for professionals. She is aware of the procedures to follow if an allegation is made against her or any adults living in her home. Thorough risk assessments are carried out to ensure the setting is safe, and for trips out. The childminder uses stairgates to help keep her provision safe.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- allow children more time to explore activities and make their own choices, so that they can develop their own ideas
- strengthen information shared with parents to further support their children's oral health.

Setting details

Unique reference number	300306
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	10229387
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 15
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	11
Date of previous inspection	4 October 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1997 and lives in Sheffield. She operates all year round from 6am to 6pm on Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Julie Dent

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder showed the inspector around the areas of her home that children access. They discussed how the childminder organises her setting and plans the curriculum and experiences for children.
- The inspector looked at a sample of the childminder's documents, including evidence of training and the suitability of those living on the premises.
- The childminder and the inspector reflected on an activity together. The inspector observed the quality of education during activities and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector read written feedback from parents to gather their views.

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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