

Childminder report

Inspection date: 17 March 2023

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children make excellent progress from their individual starting points in learning. They are extremely well prepared for the next stage in their learning and development. Children feel very at home and happy in the care of this warm and inspiring childminder. They develop high levels of communication skills and knowledge. For example, two-year-old children confidently explain how the motor on their bubble blower makes the wind move to make the bubbles come out quickly. They tell the childminder that they brush their teeth to make them 'nice, shiny and healthy'. Children love to ask questions and listen carefully to the childminder and each other.

Children are very safe and secure. They behave extremely well. For instance, children help each other as they independently put on waterproof suits and boots, ready for their outdoor sensory water play and other stimulating activities. They rise to the childminder's high expectations as they concentrate hard and persist. For example, children develop their hand-to-eye coordination as they try to catch a ball in different-shaped containers or use a pipette to add coloured water to their 'squishy' jelly mixture. Parents welcome the role which the childminder has in their children's life and hold her in very high regard.

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

- The childminder is passionate about her role and ambitious for all children to achieve their full potential. She is constantly reflective. The childminder draws on the views of parents, children and other professionals, as well as her own significant experience in childcare and nursing. This helps her to sharply focus on the future development of her provision. The childminder very occasionally works with an assistant and has secure procedures to make sure that her policies and procedures are fully understood.
- The childminder knows children extremely well through her own observations and the ongoing views of parents. She plans thoroughly for the development of children's knowledge and skills that build on and broaden their interests. For instance, children learn that, despite their differences, all animals, including humans, grow from babies to become adults. They observe chicks hatch from eggs in an incubator and care for them as adult chickens in the childminder's garden.
- The childminder focuses strongly on developing the highest standards of children's communication and language skills. Children develop a rich and pertinent vocabulary through engaging songs and activities, such as daily greetings and songs about the weather and colours. The childminder engages children in carefully considered conversations that help them remember and use their developing vocabulary. For instance, two-year-old children explain to the

childminder that, 'The sun is warm because it's not cloudy today.'

- Children thoroughly enjoy listening to the very well-told stories that the childminder reads to them. She places a wide range of fiction and non-fiction books at the heart of children's learning and play. For instance, traditional stories, such as 'The Three Little Pigs', inspire children to produce imaginative construction work, collage pictures and to learn the names of different animals and their babies.
- The childminder develops children's personal and social skills very well. She is an excellent role model and inspires children through, for instance, songs, role play and stories. Children learn to be proud of their achievements and make well-considered decisions about their play and learning. They care for each other and look after the childminder's guinea pigs and chickens with a very good knowledge of their needs.
- Children's physical development is imaginatively developed. Children learn to use scissors, tweezers and pipettes that contribute to the development of fine-muscle control and later writing scales. They rigorously run, jump and dance indoors and out and measure the differences in their heartbeat to understand the impact of exercise.
- Children's good behaviour and excellent manners are very well supported. The childminder uses stories, such as 'The Colour Monster', to help children to explore and manage their own emotions. She involves children in taking turns and making choices throughout the day. For example, children participate in shopping for, preparing, planning and sharing the well-balanced snacks and meals which they enjoy each day.
- Parents very strongly recommend the childminder. They consider that she goes 'above and beyond' and has 'high professional standards' in all aspects of her work. Parents know that their children are safe and sound and come home inspired by the day's learning. They receive excellent communication on their children's progress and support for their learning at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a very thorough knowledge of how to keep children safe from harm in many different circumstances. She has a very good understanding of how to identify any potential signs that a child is at risk of abuse or neglect. The childminder knows how to record any concerns and who to report them to, including any allegations against herself. She makes excellent use of a range of training opportunities and guidance from the local authority to keep herself fully informed. Parents comment very positively on how the childminder supports their children to consider their own safety as they play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2613672
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	10281008
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	2 to 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2021 and lives in Sheffield. She holds a level 3 qualification in early years and is also a qualified nurse. The childminder operates all year round from 7.30am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She occasionally works with an assistant.

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 childminder.
- The inspector read feedback from parents to gain their views about the childminder.
- The childminder showed the inspector around the areas of her home used for childminding and explained her intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed children during activities to assess the impact on their learning and development.
- The inspector reviewed a range of documents relevant to the childminder's practice.

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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