

Childminder report

Inspection date: 21 July 2022

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 are cheerfully greeted by the kind and caring childminder when they arrive. They happily chat about their experiences outside the setting, such as visiting the local butterfly house and going to a birthday party. Children are extremely confident. They show excellent social and communication skills from an early age. The childminder takes time to settle new children into her setting and gets to know them exceptionally well. She works closely with parents to make sure that children feel safe and secure before they are left. As a result, children build extremely close attachments with the childminder.

Children make choices about their play. They engage in a wide range of carefully planned and well-thought-out experiences. Children use all of their senses to explore the world around them. For example, they investigate what happens when they mix paint. The childminder encourages children to notice as the paints swirl together and change colour. Children watch with wonder as they make brown. The childminder is an excellent role model and has extremely high expectations for all children's learning. She demonstrates how to do things, so that children learn and develop key skills. Children show a great deal of determination and persistence as they develop and practise new skills.

Children are incredibly well behaved. They show kindness and consideration towards each other and living things. Children take it in turns to use the climbing frame and go down the slide. Older children make sure that younger children are careful and help them on the ladders.

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

- Children are extremely skillful and confident communicators, who benefit from the positive interactions which they receive. The childminder supports children's communication and language development incredibly well. She uses successful techniques to develop children's knowledge and understanding. For instance, the childminder makes comments and poses questions to extend children's thinking and conversational skills. She introduces new words, such as 'mixing, swirling' and 'pattern', to extend children's vocabulary.
- Children develop a love of books, stories and rhymes. The childminder makes books and stories interesting and fun. Children delight as they explore a book about bugs. They find different insects and sing songs about each one. Children join in with the actions and words as they develop their language skills.
- The childminder teaches children practical life skills that they will need for the future. Children love to help to complete tasks, such as gardening, cleaning and preparing and cooking healthy and nutritious food. This helps children to become self-assured and independent individuals.

- The childminder focuses on helping children to develop their physical skills. Children have endless opportunities to move around and be active. They develop their large-muscle skills as they explore in the childminder's garden. Children enjoy climbing and balancing on apparatus. They hunt for worms and excitedly watch a snail move along a leaf. Inside, children concentrate on developing their small-muscle skills as they use pegs and boards, complete puzzles and investigate play dough.
- Children learn about themselves and their families as well as the wider world. They enjoy looking at photos of themselves and share their experiences outside the setting.
- The childminder expertly supports children to develop their mathematical skills. Children are exposed to numbers and counting from an early age through songs, rhymes, books and activities. The childminder introduces concepts, such as shape, size and measure as children play and explore. For instance, as children cut up their own toast at snack time, the childminder introduces concepts such as 'full, half' and 'quarter'.
- Parents highly recommended the childminder. They say that she provides a happy, nurturing and child-centred learning environment, where children flourish. They praise the excellent communication that they receive about their children's learning. Parents particularly like the termly newsletters that give them details about the curriculum, and ideas about how to support their children's learning at home.
- The childminder has established excellent links with additional settings that children attend. She regularly speaks to them about children's achievements and what they are working towards in their learning. This provides children with continuity in their care and education.
- The childminder completes regular training to keep her knowledge and skills current. She evaluates what she has learned and uses it to help her to make improvements to her setting. For instance, the childminder has recently undertaken training to support children's outdoor learning. She has developed her garden and the outings that she provides to reflect this. The childminder expertly supports children to learn about wildlife, nature and the planet.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an excellent safeguarding knowledge. She is fully aware of her role and responsibilities to keep children safe. The childminder's home is secure and well organised. She has thoroughly risk assessed her indoor and outdoor environments to minimise any hazards. The childminder teaches children about keeping themselves safe, including when using the internet, and when out and about in the community. The childminder is confident and knows what to do if she has a concern about a child's safety or welfare. She ensures that she completes regular safeguarding training to keep her knowledge up to date.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2501013
Local authority	Barnsley
Inspection number	10191846
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 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2019 and lives in Old Town, Barnsley. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Tuesday to Friday, except for a week at Christmas, bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 4. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Clare Cotton

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 and the childminder completed a learning walk to understand how the curriculum is organised.
- A joint evaluation of an activity was conducted by the inspector and the childminder.
- The inspector held a meeting with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of persons living or working in the household and first-aid qualifications.
- Children interacted with and spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at written feedback provided by parents to gather their views and opinions about the setting.

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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