

Quality Appraisal Inspection Report

Childminder early educator
Inspection report date
Previous inspection date

Emma Palfreyman
 30th January 2019
 8th February 2018

The quality and standards of the childminder's care and education	This inspection	Good
	Previous inspection	Good
Organisation, welfare and leadership		Good
Teaching, learning and development		Good
The promotion of children's well-being		Good
Early Years Foundation Stage requirements including safeguarding and child protection.		Met

Summary of key findings for parents:

This childminder early educator is Good because of the following:

- Emma knows the children and their families very well. She takes the time to settle children in and find out as much as possible about their care routines and development. This helps Emma to plan an environment and activities that she knows children will like and will help them progress from day one. Children are very well settled.
- Emma works hard to help children with special needs progress in her care. Her caring nature and professional knowledge are a true asset to her practice.
- The childminder has planned an environment that is safe, secure and stimulating. Emma has a good understanding of the importance of risk assessing the areas children play in. Resources and equipment are good quality, appropriate and support the different areas of learning and development.
- Partnerships with parents and other settings children attend are strong. Emma has worked hard to build up a good network with other settings and the local school. This helps to ensure a two-way flow of communication is present between herself, parents and other settings. They share information about children's development regularly. Children benefit in their overall development from this shared approach to learning.
- Emma's leadership skills are evident in the running of her provision. She manages her assistants well and has a good system in place for the day-to-day routines. This is ultimately a benefit to the children and their families.

The main areas for improvement are:

- Although, Emma and her assistant record detailed observations, there are no evidence of evaluating them. This would take her a level up towards Outstanding.
- Emma promote diversity in her provision by celebrating different cultural festivals, trying out different food and dressing-up. This should be expanded to include gender diverse families.

To further improve the childminder early educator should:

- Record the evaluations of observations to show what the practitioners have learned from them and based on this, justify the next steps.
- Expand diversity by teaching children about different families' structures in modern society.

About the Quality Appraisal Inspection visit

The inspecting SAM: **Nadia Duffus**

As part of the visit, the inspector completed a range of activities including:

- Observing the quality of teaching during activities and assessing the impact this has on children's learning. Including conducting a joint evaluation with the childminder of a planned adult led activity.
- Discussing the childminder's practice at appropriate times throughout the visit with both childminder and her assistant.
- Reviewing the children's assessment records, observations and planning on the agency's EYFS learning journal software
- Viewing the areas of the house used for childminding and reviewing a selection of policies
- Collecting the views of parents from surveys, the childminder's own questionnaires and any spoken to on the day
- Discussing the childminder's self-evaluation and plans for improvement

Inspection findings

Organisation, welfare and leadership is Good

Emma is hard working and very passionate about her role as a childminder. She has worked hard to ensure she is meeting all the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Emma is committed to driving her provision forward and evaluates herself and her setting. This helps her to make improvements and form action plans that will directly benefit the children and families. Emma has assured her assistant is suitable, confident and capable of working with children through a supportive induction approach and by completing appropriate recruitment checks. This means that the assistant has had the appropriate vetting to ensure she is suitable to work alongside children and that children remain safe whilst with the childminder. Furthermore, Emma has worked closely with her assistant to ensure that she fully understands the safeguarding policies and procedures. She holds termly meetings with her and goes through safeguarding questions and scenarios. Emma does regular observations of her assistant's teaching and gives her a constructive feedback to help her practice.

Both the childminder and assistant have a clear understanding of what to do if they thought a child was at risk of abuse or neglect. They understand the referral procedures and have contact details of the Local children's safeguarding referral team to hand. Children's safety and welfare is a priority. Emma keeps herself up to date with changes in legislation and best practice through taking advantage of the support offered by her support worker and training and professional development opportunities.

Teaching, learning and development is Good.

Emma takes the time to get to know everything about the children, their preferences, dislikes and how they like to learn. She works alongside her qualified assistant to plan activities and experiences that she knows they will enjoy based upon this information. For example, Emma set up an activity related to the Christmas season. She placed different objects in a ball pit e.g. Christmas tree decorations, sparkly balls and soft fabric. They were all in different shapes and sizes. Younger children enjoyed the sensory experience of the different textures, whilst Emma encouraged the children to count and group the different objects, whilst asking open questions to help them to extend their language skills and understanding of the world around them.

Emma and her staff support children to make choices for themselves and express their own thoughts. They have a daily helper who is responsible to do little tasks throughout the day, such as helping with setting the table. Older children develop their self-care skills as they independently go to the toilet and wash their hands. Children are developing all the skills needed for their next stage in learning, including school. It is clear to see from observations and assessments made by Emma that children are making good progress.

The promotion of children's well-being is Good.

Emma takes the time to form positive relationships with children and parents from the start. She offers a flexible approach to settling in children. Emma and her assistant have implemented the key person system and have created strong bonds with their children. As a result, children are confident and explore their environment with interest and enthusiasm. Both practitioners work together with parents to establish positive approach to behaviour

management. Children feel secure in the boundaries set and they grow confident with understanding of respecting others. Parents speak highly of the childminder and the care that she provides for their children. Children are provided with lots of opportunities to access the spacious garden each day and go on regularly walks around the community. They benefit from fresh air and exercise and are starting to understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle.

Childminder early educator's setting details

Regulatory body	@Home Childcare Childminder Agency CA000017
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Childminder's unique reference number	HCEY00001A
Inspection visit date	18 th December 2018
Previous inspection date	8 th February 2018
Local Authority	Nottinghamshire
Age range of children	0 – 17

Emma was registered in 2016 and lives in Brinsley, Nottinghamshire. She operates 5 days a week all year round except family holidays and bank holidays.

More Information about the Quality Appraisal Inspection visit

The Quality Appraisal Inspection visit was conducted by a Support, Advice and Mentor (SAM) from @Home Childcare Childminder Agency in line with A guide for Childminder Agencies⁽¹⁾. The SAM reviewed all aspects of the childminder's setting to ensure they were meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework⁽²⁾. The quality of the childminder's practice was assessed using aspects of the agency's own evaluation schedule with reference to the Environment Rating Scales ⁽³⁾ and Ofsted's Inspection Evaluation Schedule. ⁽⁴⁾.

(1) *A guide for childminder agencies (July 2016) Department for Education*

(2) *Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage (April 2017) Department for Education*

(3) *Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale (Harms, Cryer and Clifford); Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (Harms, Cryer and Clifford); ECERS –E (Curricular Extension) (Sylva, Siraj-Blatchford and Taggart); Assessing quality in early childhood education and care, Sustained Shared Thinking and Emotional Well-being Scale (Siraj, Kingston and Melhuish)*

(4) *Early Years Inspection Handbook (April 2018) Ofsted* ⁽⁴⁾.