

Quality Appraisal Inspection Report

Childminder Early Educator
Inspection date
Previous inspection date

Kate Fountain
3rd February 2020
7th January 2019

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

Summary of key findings for parents:

This childminder early educator is Outstanding because of the following:

- Kate consistently provides fun and exciting activities, which are thoughtfully planned, taking into consideration children's interests and needs. She has an excellent understanding of how children learn.
- Kate has highly effective and consistent interactions with parents, who are fully aware of the progress their children are making and their level of learning and development.
- Kate capably demonstrates the need to gather in-depth information about children before they start at her setting. This allows her to put plans into place to help them settle into her environment quickly.
- Kate's expert knowledge covers all areas of learning and development; her activities are planned meticulously to reflect the needs of the children in her care.
- Children's language skills are consistently supported and stretched as Kate actively listens and uses open-ended questions to help children problem solve.
- Kate consistently demonstrates that the children's welfare is paramount. She has extensive knowledge of safeguarding and prioritises her duty of care to children.

To further improve the childminder early educator should:

To continue to expand diversity resources to clearly demonstrate that we all have similarities and differences.

About the Quality Appraisal Inspection visit

The inspection was carried out by **Suzanne Nicols**

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
- 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 Outstanding

Kate's home setting is an inviting, nurturing environment for children to enjoy and excel. She has carefully organised the layout of toys and other learning resources to ignite children's curiosity. Kate uses photographs to label storage areas, thus enabling children to easily self-select toys that interest them. For children who find it hard to choose, Kate has created a 'choice box' with a variety of toys to spark the interest of children who struggle to make a decision. Kate has developed highly effective partnerships with parents who value her professional, caring approach. She consciously shares information with parents and is mindful that some parents prefer to receive information about their child's day and progress in different way. Kate's solution for this is using a range of methods such as WhatsApp, online learning diaries and paper forms. Kate is highly aware of her duty of care and has an excellent understanding of safeguarding. She is vigilant in her approach to procedures to keep children safe in her care. Children clearly show that they feel safe, secure and at ease through their interactions with her.

Teaching, learning and development is Outstanding.

Kate clearly demonstrates her expert understanding of the areas of learning and development. The activities that she plans and provides are clearly based on children's interests and next steps. For example, meticulously planning a challenging activity to support a child to extend language skills, by using toys, such as muddy plastic animals for the child to wash using sponges and toothbrushes. Kate knew a particular child had a special interest in animals and loves water so it was a perfect opportunity to get the child chatting about animals and how to scrub to get the mud off. She took every opportunity to use communication and asks open ended questions, encouraging children to problem solve. Kate's in-depth knowledge of individual's children's ages and stages of development to plan stimulating play-based activities targeted at closing children's gaps speedily. As a result, children make excellent progress in her care.

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

Children are happily settled in Kate's care. They show this through their happy and confident interactions with her; they enjoy laughing and having a joke together during activities. A wide range of opportunities are provided to allow children to learn about the world around them, including people and communities that may be different to their own. Kate understands the importance of allowing children to challenge themselves. Her child-centred outdoor space provides them with fun and challenging experiences to encourage daily exercise, whilst also accounting for times when children may need to rest. Kate gives consistent praise and encouragement to children during activities. This encourages them to keep going and raises their self esteem and confidence. Kate supports the children to understand the importance of excellent hygiene practices, as

she actively encourages them to wash and dry hands thoroughly before eating and after activities. Children enthusiastic and motivated. They thrive in Kate's care.

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	HCEY00021
Inspection visit date	3 February 2020
Previous inspection date	7 th January 2019
Local Authority	Nottinghamshire
Age range of children	0 – 17

The childminder was registered in 2017 at the childminder setting in Sutton-In-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire. She has an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The childminder works Monday – Friday, 7.30-5.30pm all year round, excluding 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⁾.