

## Quality Appraisal Inspection Report

**Childminder Early Educator**  
**Inspection report date**  
**Previous inspection date**

Laura Broughton  
 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019  
 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018

The quality and standards of the childminder's care and early education	This inspection	Good
	Previous inspection	Outstanding
Organisation, welfare and leadership		Good
Teaching, learning and development		Good
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 Good because of the following:**

- Laura has developed strong relationships with the children attending her setting. She takes the time to understand the individual needs and interests of the children. Children's good behaviour illustrates this point as Laura understands the behaviour strategies parents provide at home and ensures these same techniques are used within her practice.
- Children are supported to understand the importance of living healthy lifestyles. For example, children understand the importance of washing their hands and are regularly taken outside to have fresh air and exercise.
- Parents are provided the opportunity to be involved in the routines of the setting. Laura ensures she gathers information from parents around children's home routines which are supported within the setting.
- Laura has established positive relationships with parents and other professionals, such as the local nursery and health visiting team. This supports children's holistic care.
- Laura provides children with positive images and resources to promote the similarities and differences between people. This ensures children have a positive image of themselves and others.
- Laura supports children's knowledge and understanding of disabilities. She takes children on outings where they can participate in disability awareness activities such as wheelchair basketball.

## The main areas for improvement are:

- Laura does not consistently use the observations she has created to closely monitor children's progress.
- Although Laura provides parents with learning and development information, it is not consistently in place and current methods to achieve this are not secure

## To further improve the childminder early educator should:

- Use one consistent method to evidence observations and assessments to closely monitor children's progress.

## About the Quality Appraisal Inspection visit

The inspecting SAM: **Kay-Louise Ley**

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

Laura's organisation is effective. She has established a suitable space for children to explore and learn. There is sufficient space for children to participate within different activities, without interrupting each other's play. The resources are easily accessible for the children and are arranged to ignite their curiosity and interest. Laura's self-evaluation is a strength for her setting. She consistently reviews her practice by completing multiple self-evaluation documents. From these, the educator creates action plans for future developments which she implements at the earliest convenience. Laura's reflective practice ensures she is meeting all welfare requirements. Laura has a good understanding of safeguarding requirements. Any safeguarding concerns are acted on swiftly and appropriately. Laura has attended several training sessions to develop her own professional knowledge and enhances learning opportunities for children in her care.

### Teaching, learning and development is Good

Children are clearly making good progress in Laura's care. The educator takes the time to understand children and their needs. This ensures next steps are appropriately identified and targeted, resulting in gaps being closed rapidly. Laura carefully plans stimulating activities to support and help children to make progress in all the 7 areas of learning within the Early Years Foundation Stage. Play topics are based on the children's current interests and next steps and Laura ensures there is a balance between planned adult-led activities and children's free play. As a natural co-explorer, Laura interacts with the children to identify and expand their knowledge. An example of this was observed during the inspection when they looked at the life cycle of butterflies. Laura placed some items on the tray, one of these being an image of a cocoon. Laura asks the children 'what comes out of a cocoon?' Laura's question promoted a discussion about the lifecycle of a butterfly. The children use the resources she has provided to develop their own ideas. For example, one child grabbed a handful of rice and sat contently listening to the sound it made as it hit the tray. Laura supported these ideas and provided positive praise as encouragement.

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

Laura's professional standards are outstanding. Since her previous inspection, Laura has inducted a new assistant to a high standard. The assistant is knowledgeable about policies and procedures because Laura invested her induction; ensuring the assistant understands the requirements of the role. Laura also has regular supervision meetings to monitor her assistant's performance. Both Laura and her assistant are effective caregivers. They take the time to truly understand the needs of the children and develop strategies to support them. An example of this is the 'feelings' display within the setting. Laura and her assistant created the display to ensure they are aware of the children's feelings each day. The interactive display allows children to identify their feelings each day by placing the corresponding feeling on the display. Knowledge of children's emotional needs helps Laura to gauge any changes that might be needed in their daily routine.

Effective partnership with parents is a key strength of Laura's. She understands the daily lives of children and their families and she uses this knowledge to help children feel secure in her setting. Laura has worked with speech and language therapists within her setting to support children's development. This has provided the children with consistency and has had a significant impact on their development. Furthermore, this has developed Laura's own confidence to identify and support any speech and language difficulties she may encounter within her setting.

## Childminder early educator's setting details

<b>Regulatory body</b>	@Home Childcare Childminder Agency CA000017
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Childminder's unique reference number</b>	CM00068
<b>Inspection visit date</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2019
<b>Previous inspection date</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2018
<b>Local Authority</b>	Nottinghamshire
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 – 17

The childminder was registered in 2016 and lives in Mansfield. She is working towards an appropriate qualification at Level 3 and works with an assistant. The childminder is open from 7am to 5.30pm, 5 days a week all year round, except for family holidays. She provides funded early education for 2, 3 and 4-year-old children.

## 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<sup>(1)</sup>. 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<sup>(2)</sup>. 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<sup>(3)</sup> and Ofsted's Inspection Evaluation Schedule.<sup>(4)</sup>

(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<sup>(4)</sup>.*