

## Quality Appraisal Inspection Report

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

Mel (Melanie) Wardle  
 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
 N/A

The quality and standards of childminder's care and education	This inspection	Good
	Previous inspection	N/A
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.		Good

### Summary of key findings for parents:

**This childminder early educator is Good because of the following:**

- The setting is well organised. Children have access to a well-equipped outdoor area.
- Children are supported to be independent by self-selecting the toys they wish to play with.
- Children are encouraged to serve themselves at snack times and to take control of their own self-care.
- Safeguarding knowledge is secure. Policies and procedures are in place and are followed, showing duty of care to children.
- There is an ethos of openness in the setting. Children are regularly encouraged to discuss and express themselves to each other and childminder. This promotes a sense of inclusion and respect.
- Robust practices are in place to protect the confidentiality of information held, thus complying with data protection regulations.
- Children's development needs are understood and supported through the provision with well thought out activities and play resources.

**The main areas for improvement are:**

- Opportunities to explore similarities and differences are limited.
- Visual displays are not fully utilised.

### To further improve the childminder educator should:

- Develop activities and resources to help children gain an understanding of the similarities and differences between themselves and within the community
- Use available space to develop visual displays to support children's learning further.

### About the Quality Appraisal Inspection visit

The inspecting SAM: **Suzanne Nicols**

The findings in this report are based on evidence gathered from the following:

- Inspection of the premises where childcare is to be provided
- Checking the evidence of suitability of the childminder and other household members
- Checking the childminder's qualifications and training
- Inspection of the toys, books, resources and equipment the childminder intends to use
- Reviewing policies and other relevant documentation
- Discussions with the childminder about her knowledge of safeguarding and the learning and development of requirements
- Collecting the views of parents from surveys, the childminder's own questionnaires
- Discussing the childminder's self-evaluation and plans for improvement

## Inspection findings

## **Organisation, welfare and leadership is Good**

Mel has organised her space with the care of children in mind., She is able to see and hear the children at all times. Children can play independently as well as in larger groups. Organisation of space allows them to move freely without being interrupted. Children can select toys themselves, thus supporting their own play ideas and selecting items that interest them. Mel has an effective and thorough knowledge of safeguarding. She has comprehensive policies in place and her knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse is good. Mel maintains effective partnerships with parents by sharing information about their children's day. She encourages them to use the *WhatsApp* group she has set up for appropriate messaging. These regular interactions with parents support the ongoing continuity of the children's care and learning.

## **Teaching, learning and development is Good**

Mel's understanding of learning and development requirements is sound. She understands the way individual children learn. Mel motivates the children well by giving them lots of praise and encouraging them to use their imagination when exploring toys and the environment both indoors and out. For example, during a water play activity, Mel taught the children about cause and effect as they excitedly poured water onto Skittles (confectionery) to watch the rainbow of colours appear. The children happily talked to Mel about the different mixing of colours and different movements in the water. She helped to extend their ideas and language by asking open questions.

Mel is knowledgeable about each child's stage of development She takes the time to get to know everything about the children, their likes, dislikes and how they like to learn. She uses this information to plan stimulating activities to match their interests, whilst helping them to achieve. It is clear children are making good progress with this educator.

## **The promotion of children's well-being is Good**

Mel understands the importance of establishing secure relationships with children. She demonstrates her key person skills by being a good role model. Strong links have been developed with parents and other providers in order to give children the best possible care. Children clearly show through their interactions and discussions that they are happy and well settled within Mel's home environment. Mel promotes good health practices, whilst encouraging children to be independent. At snack and meal times children choose their preferred fruit. They use age/safety appropriate knives and chopping boards to cut up fruit. The children enjoy doing things for themselves; thus building self-esteem and confidence, whilst preparing for the transition to school. Children have daily access to Mel's well-equipped garden, as well as regularly attending trips in the local community to promote further learning and physical exercise. Children show through their positive interactions with Mel that they are settled and happy in her care.

## **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>	HCEY000095
<b>Inspection visit date</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> December 2019
<b>Previous inspection date</b>	NA
<b>Local Authority</b>	Nottinghamshire
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 – 17

The educator was registered in December 2018 and lives in Worksop, Nottingham. She provides care for early years children and some school aged children. Mel's opening times are Monday to Friday 8am – 6pm.

### 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>.*