

Name Nicola Bradshaw

HCEY00003

Address: 28 Shortwood Avenue, Hucknall, Nottingham, NG15 6DA

Publication date: 12/02/2018

Inspection date: 16/02/2018

Previous inspection 23/02/2017

The quality and standards of childminder's care and education	This inspection Previous inspection	Good Good	Average points score
Organisation, welfare and personal development		Good	5.6
Curriculum, teaching and learning		Good	5
Professional standards and capacity to improve		Good	6
Early Years Foundation Stage requirements including safeguarding and child protection.		MET	

Summary of key findings

This childminder is good:

- Relationships with children are good. Children are confident and secure within the setting and clearly feel valued and respected.
- Nicola works hard to ensure the children in her setting are ready for school.
- Nicola knows the children in her setting well. She is aware of their strengths and weaknesses as well as their next steps.
- Children make appropriate progress and gaps to learning are targeted and supported.
- Nicola has a good relationship with the families who attend her setting. She is clearly valued and respected.
- Nicola is confident to seek further support from other professionals should the need arise.
- Nicola has a passion to develop her own knowledge and understanding of child development and is committed to achieve a high standard of care for the children in her setting.

The main areas for improvement are:

- Develop diversity resources available within the setting.
- Expand opportunities for children to talk through their thinking process.
- Assess children's engagement with activities

To improve further the childminder should:

- Expand diversity resources to support the current opportunities children have of exploring different cultures, celebrations and stereotypical gender roles.
- Support children in thinking through what they are doing and extend this through modelling, asking simple open and closed questions.
- Assess children's engagement with activities and use this knowledge to plan purposeful play opportunities which support individual children's interests.

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 graded using aspects of the Environment Rating Scales⁽³⁾. A maximum score of 7 is available in each area of practice.

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

As part of the visit the SAM completed a range of activities including:

- Observing the quality of teaching during activities and assessing the impact this has on children's learning.
- Discussing the childminder's practice at appropriate times throughout the visit.
- Reviewing the children's assessment records, observations and planning on EY Log.
- 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.

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

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

(2) *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)*

Inspection findings

Organisation, welfare and personal development is Good.

Nicola provides a warm and welcoming setting to both the children and their families. Children enjoy joining the setting and visibly feel at home. Children are supported to be independent as much as possible in terms of their hygiene routine and becoming 'school ready'. Nicola encourages the children to attempt to take on and off their own shoes, coats and provides additional support to the children who need it.

Nicola has adapted her setting as a direct result from her previous inspection to enable children to choose and select the resources independently. The setting is organised well to maximise the space available to the children, providing them opportunities to explore both independently and as part of a small group. Risks are managed appropriately, and children are supported to understand why such activities are deemed to be 'risky' for example, as a small child climbs the sofa Nicola explains she may fall and gently guides her safely back onto the floor.

Children are encouraged to join in during meals and snacks by helping to set the table and ensure the table is free from any germs. Children actively enjoy this and are eager to have their individual jobs to carry out. Meals and snacks are eaten in a friendly atmosphere where children are encouraged to discuss their day so far with both Nicola and their peers, and is a place Nicola encourages manners such as saying "please" and "thank you." Nicola is sensitive to the needs of the children, for example, as children express their desire for an item another child has Nicola explains calmly that they can share.

Behaviour is managed well within the setting for example, Nicola avoids conflict by supporting the children to share and provides a time frame of how long the children will wait until it is their turn. Children understand this and responds to this well by explaining to Nicola and each other what they have agreed. Parents' feedback shows they are happy with the service Nicola provides and would recommend the setting to any other parent looking for childcare. Parents feel Nicola provides them with relevant information around their child's day and aspects of their learning and development. They are confident to discuss concerns around any aspect of their child with Nicola and they know Nicola will do her best to support them.

Curriculum, teaching and learning is Good.

Nicola knows the children in her setting well. Children are valued, respected and thrive in Nicola's care. Observations are accurate and gaps in children's learning are closed quickly through appropriate plans being individually created. Children are provided the opportunity for regular free play, where they can select their own resources and use these as either a group or individually. Nicola has a good relationship with the children in her setting; she is sensitive to their individual needs and children's thoughts and ideas are valued.

Nicola is confident to seek further professional support regarding any developmental aspect of children's learning, such as speech therapy. Nicola has appropriate plans in place to support children

who may require some additional support. An example of this is a child who requires some assistance with speech. Nicola is conscious to ensure she pronounces words correctly and encourages the child to repeat the correct pronunciation of words. Nicola is also eager to learn new strategies to promote speech and language within her setting.

Nicola uses pre-planned activities to support children in their transitions to both school and nursery. She introduces fun ways in which she can support the children to write their names and draw some simple shapes. An illustration of this is she encourages children to make the marks of their names in cereal, instead of simply on paper which creates a fun aspect to their learning.

Nicola asks children some purposeful questions, but she does not consistently allow children to show their full knowledge about a topic. For example, during an activity involving farm animals, Nicola asks the children if they know the names of the animals. However, Nicola did not give the children the opportunity to illustrate their wider knowledge of the animals by naming the different body parts of the animals and their functions. Instead, she provided this information herself by giving children the answer. Further expansion of her questioning would have encouraged the children to show children's current knowledge and gaps in their understanding.

Children are confident to explore Nicola's setting and to seek her out should they need further support. Nicola uses cultural events to develop children's understanding around diversity, although resources are not yet fully in place to allow children to independently explore the cultural differences of the world. Nicola has a good relationship with the parents who attend her setting and successfully works in partnership with them to further support children's learning and development.

Professional standards and capacity to improve is Good.

Nicola has worked hard this past year to develop her practice after her previous inspection. She has made good use of the agency, both in terms of working closely with her SAM and attending training. Nicola has a vast range of CPD training she has attended in the last 12 months and is also currently working hard to complete her Level 2 in Early Years. Nicola clearly has a passion to develop her own knowledge and understanding which will have a positive effect on the children in her care. Nicola ensures parents have ample opportunities to be involved in the daily running of the setting as Nicola seeks their feedback and views on a regular basis. Nicola welcomes any feedback from parents and ensures she uses this feedback to develop her setting further. Nicola is confident to seek support from both the agency and other professionals such as speech therapists should the need arise.

Childminder's details

This childminder is registered with @Home Childcare Childminder Agency CA00017

Registration number HCEY00003

Local authority Nottinghamshire

Registers EYR, CCR, VCR

The childminder was registered in 2016 and lives in Hucknall, near Nottingham. She is currently working towards her level 2 in Childcare. The childminder is open from 7.15 to 6.15, 5 days a week all year round. She provides funded early education for 2, 3 and 4-year-old children.