

Quality Appraisal Inspection Report

Childminder Early Educator: Nicola (Nikkie) Wilsher

Inspection publication date: 17th October 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:

- Nikkie's home is carefully organised to provide a safe and stimulating environment for children to enjoy and flourish in.
- She has thoughtfully selected a wide range of play resources to keep children engaged. Nikkie frequently rotates toys and books to keep children's inquisitive minds stimulated.
- Her skilful teaching and organisation skills enables children of all ages to make good development with their learning.
- Nikkie promotes daily opportunities for children to explore the outdoors. Her appealing outdoor space with wide range of resources encourages children to freely explore activities, whilst getting fresh air.
- Nikkie teaches children to understand about caring for animals. She keeps her guinea pigs where children can easily see and care for them in the garden.
- Nikkie knows the children in her care well and has established a good relationship with parents. She works closely with families to help children settle quickly.

The main areas for improvement are:

- Although children are encouraged to be independent with some tasks, such as accessing the toilet, they should be given more opportunities to develop life skills.
- There is some evidence of Nikkie supplying parents with children's transition to school reports, but more should be done to support children's emotional transition to school.

To further improve the childminder early educator should:

- Encourage children to have more responsibility with daily routines such as setting up and tidying away at meal times
- Support children for school transition by providing discussion opportunities to mentally prepare for the change

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
- Discussing the childminder's self-evaluation and plans for improvement

Inspection findings

Organisation, welfare and leadership is Good

Nikkie has very strong leadership skills. This is clearly seen in the way she manages her setting. Her assistants all received induction training including knowledge about Nikkie's policies and procedures. They all have good knowledge of safeguarding and keeping children safe. Nikkie evaluates her practice regularly and has a positive attitude towards continual improvement. Although he is qualified at Level 3, she recognises the importance of updating her knowledge by accessing training delivered by her agency, whenever she can. Nikkie understands the importance of sharing information with parents and teachers at the school the children attend. She regularly shares newsletters and end of term reports with parents. Nikkie understands speaking to parents at the beginning or end of her sessions is valued as the best form of communication and she does this regularly.

Teaching, learning and development is Good.

Nikkie demonstrates her strong organisation skills in the way she plans activities and tracks children's progress. She monitors children's development closely and ensures planned activities are focussed on helping children to achieve their next steps. Children play contently in her setting; they feel secure and valued because she knows them well and ensures their development needs are met. One of Nikkie's talent as a childminder educator is differentiated learning. She is skilful at organising activities to enable children of all ages to participate and learn. An example of this is a 'paint the dinosaur' task she organised. Children of all ages were engrossed: older children used their imaginations to paint their own pictures of dinosaurs and Nikkie encouraged them to count and name the different colours. A baby in the group enjoyed using the paints for sensory play. Nikkie realised this and extended the baby's learning by providing sponge dabs for the baby to dab in and out of the paint pots. She skilfully guided each child towards the goals she wanted them to achieve from the activity. Children clearly flourish from Nikkie's capable teaching.

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

A strength of Nikkie's home setting is the way she organises space to create a sense of wonder for children. Her home is welcoming and bright. Children happily play in a well-resourced playroom. There is a dedicated after school room with stimulating activities for older children, whilst young children have their own space to play and sleep in, all within earshot of Nikkie. Children have ample opportunities to get fresh air throughout the day. The well-equipped garden is a popular play space for children. They can choose from a range of outdoor games and toys and explore the wildlife that frequent the green space. As well as physical exercise, nutritious meals and snacks are provided daily to encourage a healthy lifestyle. Nikkie ensures British Values are promoted to remind children to share toys, be polite and respectful towards each other. Nikkie models these human values herself with her interactions with children.

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	CM00033A
Inspection visit date	5 th September 2018
Previous inspection date	13 th July 2017
Local Authority	Sheffield
Age range of children	0 – 17

Nikkie was registered in 2016 and lives in Oughtibridge, Sheffield. She operates 4 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⁾.