

Quality Appraisal Inspection Report

Childminder Early Educator
Inspection report date
Previous inspection date

Sarah Perkins
 6th December 2019
 15th March 2019

The quality and standards of the childminder's care and early education	This inspection	Outstanding
	Previous inspection	Requires Improvement
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:

- Policies and procedures are organised well, meaning they are easily accessible when needed.
- The setting offers free flow between indoor and outdoor play. Children have a choice to where they choose to play.
- Activities are readily adaptable resulting in children of all ages being capable of participating.
- Children are supported to understand the settings routine which helps them to quickly settle into the setting.
- Relationships with children are strong. Children use Sarah as a secure base to explore and are confident to seek her out when needed.
- Partnerships with parents are secure. Sarah works alongside parents to support learning at home. This has been developed via a book sharing scheme.
- Parental feedback is strong. Parents value Sarah and are pleased with the progress their children make in her care.
- Sarah has embarked on a good course of professional development to raise the standards of her care.
- Safeguarding knowledge is secure. Sarah is aware of the key signs of abuse and understand the referral procedures within the local authority.

To maintain the outstanding practice the childminder early educator should:

- Continue to develop self-evaluations to continually raise the standards of care.

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 the 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.

Sarah has meticulously planned the play space available to children. There is ample space for children to play as part of large and small groups with no disruption to their play. Toys are displayed to spark and ignite children's interest. For example, Sarah has displayed a tray of pine cones, paper and paint. This activity is left for children to explore independently, allowing children to decide how they would like to use the resources on display. There is a good range of toys available for children to independently select and use to extend/expand their ideas. Sarah works alongside parents to establish routines. Routines are flexible and are individualised to meet the needs of the children. Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents are happy with the care Sarah provides and feel welcomed and valued in the setting.

Teaching, learning and development is Outstanding.

Sarah has high expectations for the children attending the setting. Children are making secure progress in their learning which is as a result of the appropriate opportunities children are given. Sarah understands the learning needs of the children and plans activities which are challenging, thus supporting children to reach their full potential. There is an excellent balance between adult and child led activities. For example, during the inspection there were three different activities set up for the children to explore. This was in addition to large outdoor play equipment. Sarah ensures children have adequate time to freely explore the activities independently and skilfully involves herself in children's play. She regularly questions children to identify their knowledge, understanding and reasoning. For example, during an activity the children identified a small world figure as 'grandma'. Sarah asked the question, why it is grandma? How do we know this? This supports the children to think for themselves, formulate their response and explain their reasoning. Interactions with children are purposeful.

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

Sarah is an exceptional caregiver. Children are visibly happy, confident and secure within the setting. Children are eager to involve Sarah in their play due to her enthusiasm to learn alongside them. Children are supported to take appropriate risks within the setting. For example, Sarah supports children to appropriately obtain items which are slightly out of reach by using a chair. Furthermore, Sarah allows the children to climb inside the cars, providing positive praise and support, thus supporting children to solve problems and safely manage their own risks. Children are supported to manage their behaviour appropriately as Sarah explains any unacceptable behaviour in an age appropriate way. This helps children to understand why some types of behaviour is unacceptable.

Children are supported to live healthy lifestyles through eating healthy and receiving time for physical exercise. Children have open access to the outdoor area which is where Sarah and the children spend most of their time. Sarah helps children to understand that we live in a diverse society through discussions about our differences and similarities. Sarah developed several displays showcasing a range of toys and books to spark conversations about what makes us all unique.

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	CM000079
Inspection visit date	13 th November 2019
Local Authority	Nottingham City
Age range of children	0 – 17

The childminder was registered in 2018 and lives in the Meadows area of Nottingham. She is working towards an appropriate qualification at level 2. The childminder is open from 6.30 to 5.30, 5 days a week all year round, except 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⁽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⁾.*