

Quality Appraisal Inspection Report

Childminder Early Educator
Inspection report date
Previous inspection date

Tracy Davies
 14th February 2019
 9th March 2018

The quality and standards of childminder's care and education	This inspection	Outstanding
	Previous inspection	Outstanding
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:

- Tracy's care and educational approach is thoughtfully tailored to children's individual needs. She takes time to know each child and create a bond with them. Her knowledge of the children's likes and dislikes, their background and the way they learn helps her to plan purposeful activities which take them to the next level of their development. Children are well settled and confident.
- Resources and equipment are good quality, appropriate and support the different areas of learning and development. Tracy prefers to only use toys made of natural materials to ignite children's imagination and stimulate their creative thinking. The layout of her home is carefully set with children in mind. They can easily access the resources and choose activities throughout the day.
- Children's emotional well-being is given a high priority. Tracy has a very warm and caring personality. Children are greeted with affection and have formed strong attachments with their educator. These positive interactions boost children's self-esteem and confidence.
- Partnerships with parents and other settings children attend are strong. Tracy has built up a good network with other settings and the local school. This helps to ensure a two-way flow of communication is present between herself, parents and other settings. They share information about children's development regularly. Children benefit in their overall development from this shared approach to learning.

To maintain outstanding practice the childminder early educator should:

Although Tracy promotes diversity, she should develop this further to include gender diversity within families. This will help children understand modern family structures and help avoid gender stereotypes.

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
- 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.

Tracy is conscientious and passionate about her role and responsibilities as a childminder early educator. She is thorough in her knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage and consistently implements this in her activities. This reflects in her practice and displays outstanding achievements for the children in her care. Tracy is committed to driving her provision forward and evaluates herself and her practice systematically. This helps her to make improvements and form action plans that will directly benefit the children and families. Her safeguarding knowledge is strong. She is confident in the signs and types of abuse and referral procedures. She helps parents understand the importance of safeguarding by sharing her child protection policies with them.

Children's safety and welfare is a priority. Tracy keeps herself up to date with changes in legislation and best practice through taking advantage of the support offered by her agency, including accessing training and professional development opportunities.

Teaching, learning and development is Outstanding.

Tracy is an exceptional teacher. She understands the different ways children learn and tailors her activities based on this knowledge. She is passionate about their learning and development and is not afraid to let them take risks and try things for themselves. This method of teaching is empowering for the children as they acquire life skills from a very young age. She brings nature into her activities at every opportunity. For example, Tracy and the children made bird feeders. They all cut holes into apples and filled them with seeds and food that birds would like to eat. Children were encouraged to use tools to cut the apples and make holes under Tracy's supervision. The younger children enjoyed the sensory part of the activity, while the older ones had lengthy conversations with Tracy about the birds, nature and the world around them. Children are actively encouraged to develop their independence by allowing them to explore new real-life objects for themselves. Tracy uses her teaching skills and her knowledge of the individual children in her provision to ensure they are making rapid progress. As a result, they develop quickly and flourish in her care.

Tracy has a true passion about nature and being outdoors. She takes full advantage of the green spaces and woodland areas where she lives. Children benefit from daily outdoor adventures. They get fresh air and exercise and learn about the world around them with the skilful guidance of their educator. They also visit libraries and local play groups. Tracy takes every opportunity to teach them about differences in people and that we are all unique and special.

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

Tracy is very enthusiastic about healthy eating. Children benefit from nutritious meals and they learn the importance of making good food choices. She also takes an interest of what different cultures cook and includes this in her menu. For example, she often makes a traditional Bulgarian pastry with feta cheese together with the children. Working in partnership with parents and other services are successfully supported within the setting. Parents are confident to approach Tracy to discuss their child's development. She has a flexible settling-in system in place to tailor to the individual needs of her families. This has a positive impact on children's self-esteem and they feel valued as part of her setting.

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	HCEY00038
Inspection visit date	14 th January 2019
Previous inspection date	9 th March 2018
Local Authority	Nottinghamshire
Age range of children	0 – 17

Tracy was registered in 2017 and lives in Jacksdale, Nottinghamshire. She operates 5 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⁾.