

Quality Appraisal Inspection Report

Childminder Early Educator
Inspection report date
Previous inspection date

Paula Walker
6th November 2023
21st April 2022

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

What is it like to attend Paula's early years setting?

This childminder early educator is Outstanding.

Paula has an excellent understanding of child development and child behaviour. Paula takes the time to explain to children the effects of their actions and helps them to resolve conflicts. She helps not only children to understand behaviour expectations, but parents as well, where appropriate, sharing management systems and techniques such as giving children options to help with behaviour issues, promoting consistency between the setting and home. Partnerships with parents and other professionals are highly effective. The educator works tirelessly to secure relationships that will better the outcomes for her children and families.

Teaching is outstanding across all areas. The educator has an excellent understanding of how children learn and the characteristics of learning. The educator provides an inclusive environment which has been meticulously planned, including a wide range of toys that ensure children are highly motivated and challenged. Children demonstrate they are curious learners and imaginative as they play with water outside, Paula helps them to understand the difference between floating and sinking, using small boats, encouraging children to try for themselves. Through activities like this, children are learning to be responsive with adults and their peers. The carefully considered use of the outdoor area and the experiences planned for them, allow children to learn more about their environment and helps to meet their individual learning needs.

The educator has systems in place to identify the progress children are making, making use of their starting points to put in place tailored plans for each of them. Highly effective monitoring allows Paula to track the progress made by individual and groups of children. She displays children's next steps so that parents and her assistant understand the areas she is currently targeting. Paula's interactions are highly responsive to children's needs and extend children's learning and development. The educator is an outstanding role model who uses her teaching skills to enhance children's learning experiences.

What does the early years setting do well?

- Paula's setting is well organised over two floors providing imaginative and enjoyable experiences for children, across different rooms where a range of activities are provided.
- Toys and other resources in good condition, have been placed in such a way that children can interact with items of their choice. They ignite children's curiosity and help to extend play.
- The educator uses language skilfully to promote learning and stretch and challenge children's perceptions during activities.

- Paula has worked hard to be able to demonstrate her management organisational skills, relating to how she holds information about the children in her care.
- Children are enthusiastic; they thrive in Paula's care and consistently show that they are highly motivated to learn. They interact with one another and clearly show they are happy to be in the welcoming environment.
- Praise and encouragement of children is freely given; this encourages them to try new things and helps with their self-esteem, increasing their 'have a go' attitude.
- Paula is extremely proactive in her approach and shows commitment and enthusiasm to continue to develop in all areas including regularly undertaking training that is beneficial for her own personal development.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

1. Paula should continue to embed ways to include mathematical language and concepts into all activities with children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Paula has a robust understanding of the possible signs and symptoms that present when a child may be at risk of harm. She recognises different types of abuse children may be at risk from, including radicalisation and extremism. Paula is fully aware to whom she must report concerns. A continual emphasis and awareness on children's welfare is actively promoted.

Paula's setting is safe and secure for children. She carries out risk assessments of the environment to ensure the children are continually safe. Further checks are carried out by Paula when visiting places within the local community, thus minimising risks when taking children outdoors. The educator and her assistant have attended additional safeguarding training. Paula supports her assistant to ensure she has a good understanding of safeguarding and child protection.

More information about this childminder early educator

Regulatory body	@Home Childcare Childminder Agency CA000017
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Childminder's unique reference number	HCEY0009
Local Authority	Nottingham City
Age range of children	0 – 17

The educator was registered in May 2016 and lives in Nottingham. She has an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and works with an assistant. The educator is open from 8am to 7pm , 5 days a week all year round. She provides funded early education for 2, 3 and 4-year-old children.

Information about this Quality Appraisal Inspection

The visiting inspector : **Suzanne Nicols**

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 educator of a planned adult led activity.
- Discussing the educator's practice at appropriate times throughout the visit
- 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 early education and reviewing a selection of policies
- Collecting the views of parents from surveys, the educator's own questionnaires and any spoken to on the day
- Discussing the educator's self-evaluation and plans for improvement

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years' Foundation Stage. If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can complain to Ofsted.

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* (October 2021) Department for Education

(2) *Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage* (September 2023) 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* (May 2019) Ofsted ⁽⁴⁾.