

Quality Appraisal Inspection Report

Childminder Early Educator
Inspection report date
Previous inspection date

Michelle Smith
 15th January 2024
 11th July 2022

The quality and standards of the childminder's care and early education	This inspection	Good
	Previous inspection	Requires Improvement
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.		Effective

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

This childminder early educator is Good.

The children have settled well into this home-from-home setting. Children are making good progress since attending the setting and have formed strong attachments to Michelle. The children are exposed to a wide range of activities such as: library visits, playgroups, trips to the park and walks in the local area. These experiences are having a positive impact on the children's self-confidence and language skills. During the focus activity, the children enjoyed looking at photographs of previous learning moments. The children could talk in sentences to describe what they could see. A child said, 'Look I am going down the slide at the park.' A younger child pointed to the animals at the farm visit and said, 'look duck'

Michelle teaches the children to follow simple instructions be independent. During snack time, children enjoyed making scrambled egg, following Michelle's instructions to crack the eggs and whisk the ingredients together. The children particularly enjoyed counting how long the eggs went into the microwave for. Having these real-life hands-on experiences are developing the children's listening and concentration skills. The children are encouraged to sit on a chair for snack and lunch time, and they use their own cutlery, which is helping the children to become independent.

Children are developing an awareness of their emotional well-being through activities. Michelle uses activities such as stories to build on their understanding of their emotions. This is supporting the children's emotional resilience.

What does the early years setting do well?

- Michelle knows the children well; she can talk confidently about the starting points of the children and the progress they have made in the setting.
- All the children have regular observations and termly updates, which are shared with parents.
- Michelle plans topic-based learning around the interests of the children. This terms topic is 'Birds'. The children have enjoyed making bird feeders, bird watching in the local area and learning more about birds using books from the library.
- Children are exposed to activities that develop all areas of learning for example, mark making, painting, arts and crafts, cooking.
- Children take part in daily yoga activities; this is a great way to progress the children's physical development skills.

- Children behave well and learn how to deal with conflict. Michelle works closely with them to help them understand and how to overcome these. For example, when the children want the same plate, Michelle models to the children how to share the plate and how to overcome and solve the problem. She talks very calmly and simply to the children. The children respond well and listen carefully to Michelle; this is developing their personal and social development.
- All policies and procedures are reviewed and updated.
- Michelle is self-reflective; she is always thinking of ways to improve her setting.
- Books of interest are accessible for the children to develop a love for reading, including both fiction and non-fiction.
- The childminder attends regular training to develop her continuous professional development.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

- To ensure the children have next steps fully relevant to their age and stage of development.
- To develop children's opportunities for independent play.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Michelle has a good understanding of the possible signs and symptoms a child may be at risk of harm. She recognises different types of abuse children may be at risk from. Michelle knows those to whom she must report concerns to and the referral process. Michelle's home where the children play is safe and secure. She carries out risk assessments of the environments to ensure the children are safe. Michelle carries out checks when they leave the home to minimise risks when they visit places in the community. Michelle has attended additional safeguarding training to develop her knowledge of wider safeguarding issues.

This assures the safety and welfare of the children

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	HCEY00085
Inspection visit date	15/01/2024
Local Authority	Nottinghamshire County Council
Age range of children	0 – 17

The educator was registered in 2018 and lives in Nottinghamshire. The educator is open from 8.00am to 5.00pm, 3 days per week. She provides funded early education for 2, 3 and 4-year-old children.

Information about this Quality Appraisal Inspection

The visiting inspector: Jennifer James

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 visiting inspector 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 (January 2024) 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⁾.