

Quality Appraisal Inspection Report

Childminder Early Educator
Inspection report date
Previous inspection date

Chris's Childcare
 16th May 2025
 N/A

The quality and standards of the childminder's care and early education	This inspection	Good
	Previous inspection	N/A
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 *Chris's Childcare*, the early years setting?

This early years setting is Good.

Chris's Childcare provides a calm and friendly environment where children feel safe and enjoy their time. Children are grouped according to their age and stage of development, which helps staff meet their individual needs and provide appropriate learning opportunities.

The outdoor area is a popular part of the day, offering space for children to be active and imaginative. Activities like using homemade binoculars to search for the Easter Bunny capture their interest and support their early creativity and communication. Indoors, staff support children to take part in hands-on play, such as making shakers with Rice Krispies. This encourages children to explore different materials and begin to understand cause and effect, with some adult guidance.

Staff interact positively with the children and are responsive to their interests. They ask questions to extend children's thinking, especially with older children, helping them to develop their language and ideas. For example, talking about what the Easter Bunny might eat gives children the chance to use their imagination and practise speaking in groups.

Children are supported to share and take turns, and staff offer gentle reminders to help manage behaviour. This helps children to play cooperatively and feel more confident in social situations. Older children are beginning to manage daily routines independently, which supports their readiness for school. Babies are settled and cared for by kind staff who help them feel secure.

Children make steady progress across all areas of development. Staff track this using the Famly app, keeping parents informed. Parents appreciate the regular updates and feel able to approach staff with any questions or concerns. Chris's Childcare offers a supportive and caring setting where children enjoy learning and are well looked after.

What does Chris's Childcare do well?

- Pre-school children are beginning to learn school routines. They take part in structured activities, enjoy free play time, and are encouraged to independently use the toilet. Tabletop activities for older children help them develop focus and concentration.
- Children show interest in adult-led activities. Older children are increasingly engaged in conversations with adults, confidently sharing their thoughts and ideas.

- Children are encouraged to take an active role in their own learning. Staff regularly ask for their input, allowing children to shape and extend their play experiences.
- Regular outdoor learning walks in the local area provide children with opportunities to explore and connect with their wider community.
- Independence and safety are promoted through consistent hygiene routines throughout the day.
- Parents can access the setting's website, which offers detailed information, including all relevant policies and procedures.
- Staff undergo a thorough recruitment process to ensure they are, and continue to be, suitable to work with children.
- Ongoing professional development is encouraged, with staff supported to gain relevant qualifications for working with children.
- The setting's administration is well organised, ensuring all documentation is kept up to date and reviewed regularly.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

- Develop staff training to continually widen staff's knowledge
- Ensure children have appropriate next steps in all areas of learning
- Embed staff's knowledge of the adult planned learning intentions.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff at Chris's Childcare demonstrate a strong understanding of the key signs and symptoms of abuse and are confident in following the internal referral procedures to report any concerns about children's welfare. Their safeguarding knowledge is regularly refreshed through in-house training updates.

The learning environments, both indoors and outdoors, are routinely risk assessed to maintain a safe and secure space for all children. Access to the property is controlled; parents and visitors must ring a recorded bell, ensuring that no unauthorised individuals are permitted onto the premises.

Staff's knowledge and practice of safeguarding assures the safety and welfare of children at the setting.

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	CM000237
Inspection visit date	3 rd April 2025
Local Authority	Rutland
Age range of children	0 – 17

The Childcare on Domestic Premises setting was registered in 2023 and is based in Rutland. Staff has appropriate qualifications. The educator is open from 7.30am to 6pm, 5 days a week all year round. She provides funded early education for 2, 3 and 4-year-old children.

Chris's Childcare had a quality assurance visit within the past year, which is not conducted as an inspection, therefore a quality judgement was not given. The educator received verbal and written feedback, as usual.

Information about this Quality Appraisal Inspection

The visiting inspector: **Kay-Louise Ley & 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 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⁾.