

Quality Appraisal Inspection Report

Childminder Early Educator
Inspection report date
Previous inspection date

Lizzie Allan
5th August 2025
N/A

The quality and standards of the childminder's care and early education	This inspection	Good
	Previous inspection	NA
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 Lizzie's early years setting?

This childminder early educator is Good.

Lizzie provides a warm, engaging, and well-organised setting where children feel safe, confident, and eager to learn. She builds strong relationships with children, who use her as a secure base to explore their environment. During the inspection, children were observed playing with playdough. Lizzie encouraged sharing, introduced new vocabulary such as “squeeze” and “squish,” and supported counting by dividing the dough into pieces. Her interactions are consistently warm, purposeful, and developmentally appropriate.

Children benefit from a rich learning environment that includes real-life resources like egg boxes and home corner items, which support imaginative play. Outdoor learning is a regular feature, with children exploring local parks and wooded areas. Lizzie promotes independence by encouraging children to “have a go” and supports their understanding of safety through gentle reminders and explanations.

She demonstrates a clear understanding of each child's development. One child who initially struggled to settle now confidently participates in routines and is developing early number and colour recognition. Another child has made rapid progress in speech and physical coordination. Lizzie has identified thoughtful next steps for each child, including fine motor development and social skills like turn-taking.

Lizzie reflects on her practice and is committed to improvement. She plans to enhance cultural learning opportunities and complete her self-evaluation quality improvement plan. Parent feedback is wholly positive, and Lizzie's passion for providing high-quality care is evident throughout her practice.

What does Lizzie do well?

- Lizzie builds warm, secure relationships with the children, helping them feel confident and safe in her care.
- The children actively seek Lizzie's involvement and use her as a secure base from which to explore.
- She demonstrates thoughtful, child-centred teaching that supports each child's individual learning needs.
- Through open-ended questions and the introduction of new vocabulary, Lizzie extends children's communication and language development.
- She identifies and supports appropriate next steps across all areas of learning, including emotional regulation, fine motor skills, and early maths.
- Lizzie encourages imaginative play and exploration through real-life and natural resources, such as pinecones, feathers, and dried flowers.
- Her strong understanding of safeguarding is evident in her ability to recognise signs of abuse and respond appropriately.

- Safeguarding procedures are followed thoroughly, and she maintains accurate, detailed records of concerns, injuries, and disclosures.
- Lizzie uses the early years software, Baby Days, effectively to document observations, assessments, and to share key information with parents.
- She provides high-quality learning experiences that are engaging, meaningful, and aligned with the children's interests and developmental stages.
- Her relationships with parents are consistently positive and open, with regular, constructive communication.
- Lizzie is developing thoughtful ways to share children's progress with families, such as creating scrapbooks for them to take home.

What does Lizzie need to do to improve?

- Continue to develop children's opportunities to explore the local community.
- Give children more chances to learn about different people, cultures, and ways of life.
- Make sure children have clear next steps to help them grow in every area of their learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Safeguarding is effective. Lizzie is confident in identifying signs of abuse and understands referral procedures. She records concerns appropriately and keeps up to date with local guidance. Her knowledge of Prevent Duty and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is secure, and she understands how to respond to disclosures or allegations.

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	CM00264
Inspection visit date	3 rd July 2025
Local Authority	Nottinghamshire
Age range of children	0 – 17

The educator was registered in 2024 and lives in Nottinghamshire. The educator is open from 8am to 5pm, 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: **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 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⁾.