

Quality Appraisal Inspection Report

Childminder Early Educator
Inspection report date
Previous inspection date

Arline Mali
31st October 2025
30th March 2022

The quality and standards of the childminder's care and early 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.		Effective

What is it like for children to attend Arline's early years setting?

This childminder early educator is Outstanding.

Arline has developed warm, trusting relationships with the children in her care, which has had a positive impact on their confidence and self-esteem. She consistently encourages children to try new skills, offering gentle reassurance and support that helps them feel safe and secure. During a painting activity, Arline calmly told a child, *"It's just me and you, we can do this together,"* which gave the child the confidence to keep trying and enjoy the experience. Her calm and nurturing approach enables children to approach new challenges with enthusiasm and confidence.

During a recent focus activity, Arline supported a child who initially needed help to hold a paintbrush. Through her patient guidance and encouragement, the child was soon able to use a pincer grip to make marks and patterns in a flour mixture. The child made excellent progress throughout the session, demonstrating growing independence and control. This success was a result of Arline's strong understanding of the child's individual needs and her ability to adapt her approach to follow the child's interests and pace of learning.

Arline also plays a key role in supporting children's personal, social, and emotional development. She uses engaging strategies such as emotion cards, songs, stories, and expressive play to help children recognise and talk about their feelings. By modelling positive emotional language and providing gentle reassurance, she helps children understand that all feelings are valid and encourages them to express emotions appropriately.

Through these thoughtful interactions, children are becoming more confident in managing their emotions, showing empathy towards others, and building positive relationships within the setting. Arline's compassionate and responsive practice continues to nurture each child's well-being, confidence, and love of learning.

What does Arline do well?

- Arline knows the children well and can confidently talk about their starting points, individual needs, and the progress they are making within the setting. This strong understanding enables her to plan meaningful activities that build on each child's interests and stage of development.
- All children have age and stage appropriate next steps that are tailored to their individual needs and support their ongoing learning and development.

- The children have many opportunities to develop their learning outdoors. The garden area includes a covered space with a sand tray, mud kitchen, and a small-world minibeast exploration area. These well-planned resources provide rich opportunities for children to explore, experiment, and develop their curiosity, imagination, and understanding of the natural world.
- Children have regular opportunities to explore the local community. Arline organises outings to soft play centres, playgroups, and local parks, allowing the children to develop their social skills, confidence, and understanding of the world around them. These experiences help children feel connected to their community and support their physical development, communication, and personal, social, and emotional growth.

Arline uses EYLog a secure online learning journal, to share information with parents. This includes baseline assessments, termly reports, and two-year progress checks. Using the online journal helps parents stay well-informed about their child's learning and development, strengthening home-setting partnerships and supporting parents in continuing their child's learning at home.

To maintain outstanding practice the childminder educator should:

- Continue to update and review policies and procedures in line with the new *Early Years Foundation Stage* (EYFS) 2025.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Arline demonstrates a strong understanding of effective safeguarding practices and is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all children in her care. She has a secure knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect and is confident in following the correct procedures should she have any concerns about a child's welfare. Arline ensures that safeguarding policies and procedures are consistently embedded in her daily practice and regularly reviewed. She builds warm, trusting relationships with children and their families, creating an environment where children feel safe, valued, and confident to share their thoughts or worries. Through ongoing training and reflection, Arline continues to strengthen her safeguarding knowledge and maintains a high standard of practice within 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	HCEY000013
Inspection visit date	29 th September 2025
Local Authority	Derby
Age range of children	0 – 17

The educator was registered in 2016. She has a level 3 Early Years qualification. The educator is open from 7.30am to 6.30pm, 5 days a week. She provides funded early education for 9 months, 2, 3 and 4-year-old children.

Arline 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: Jenni 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⁾.

- *A guide for childminder agencies (2021) Department for Education*
- *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2025) Department for Education*
- *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)*
- *Early Years Inspection Handbook (2025) Ofsted ⁽⁴⁾.*