

Quality Appraisal Inspection Report

Childminder Early Educator
Inspection report date
Previous inspection date

Cairen Woodhouse
12th December 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		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 Cairen's early years setting?

This childminder early educator is Good.

Children in Cairen's setting flourish in a calm, nurturing environment that is simultaneously highly stimulating, consistently promoting curiosity, creativity, and a love of learning. Each child is treated as a valued individual, and the educator demonstrates an exceptional understanding of their unique interests, abilities, and developmental needs. This personalised approach ensures that children feel safe, confident, and secure, enabling them to fully engage in play and learning. The atmosphere is relaxed yet purposeful, allowing children to explore at their own pace, develop resilience, and make meaningful choices that support their personal, social, and emotional development.

The learning experiences provided are rich, varied, and thoughtfully designed to support all areas of development. Indoors, the environment is carefully organised with natural resources, stimulating activity areas, quiet spaces for reflection, and opportunities for creativity and exploration. Outdoors, children enjoy a wide range of activities that promote physical challenge, problem-solving, and sensory development. They explore textures in the tuff tray, investigate natural materials such as herbs, leaves, and conkers, and spend time in the cabin kitchen mixing ingredients to make potions, experimenting with textures, colours, and smells. Cairen skilfully uses these activities to extend children's learning, introducing new vocabulary, encouraging mathematical thinking, and supporting scientific understanding. Every experience is purposeful, building children's confidence, independence, and curiosity.

Parents can be assured that children's welfare, development, and progress are a high priority. Cairen builds strong, effective partnerships with parents, ensuring they are fully involved through regular updates, detailed termly progress reports, scrapbooks, and open communication. Children are consistently encouraged to develop independence, positive relationships, and a sense of responsibility, creating a nurturing environment where they feel secure, supported, and empowered to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

What does Cairen Woodhouse do well?

- Cairen maintains comprehensive records of each child's development, carefully documenting observations, achievements, and progress with accompanying photographs. Termly reports clearly identify next steps in line with the EYFS, ensuring parents have a full understanding of their child's learning journey.
- The educator uses her scrapbook system effectively to capture children's experiences and learning. These visual records provide a rich insight into activities, achievements, and developmental milestones, creating meaningful opportunities for reflection and discussion with parents.
- Cairen supports children to recognise and manage their feelings, modelling calm and appropriate responses. She encourages children to express themselves verbally, helping them develop resilience and emotional literacy.
- She actively promotes social skills, turn-taking, and cooperation. Children are guided to share resources, negotiate play, and collaborate; they learn to respect each other and build positive relationships.

- Activities and resources are thoughtfully set up and continually adapted in response to children's emerging interests and curiosity. The educator ensures that all learning experiences remain engaging, meaningful, and tailored to each child's individual needs.
- Cairen fosters speech, language, and communication development by modelling language, introducing new vocabulary during play, and encouraging children to describe what they are doing, seeing, and discovering.
- Independence and practical life skills are promoted through everyday routines. Children are encouraged to tidy up, use tools safely, and manage simple self-care tasks, helping them develop confidence, responsibility, and problem-solving abilities.
- Cairen creates opportunities for hands-on experimentation and cause-and-effect learning. She observes children carefully, extends their thinking with thought-provoking questions, and encourages them to test, explore, and evaluate the outcomes of their activities.

What does Cairen Woodhouse need to do to improve?

- Continue to develop and embed your self-evaluation and quality improvement plan (SEQIP). Regularly reflect on what is working well and what could be improved, capturing examples of how changes have enhanced outcomes for children. This will further strengthen your ability to demonstrate ongoing professional development and continuous improvement.
- As you have not yet had the opportunity to complete any two-year progress checks, take time to familiarise yourself with the process and format you will use. This will ensure that when the time comes, your assessments clearly identify children's strengths, areas for development and next steps, and that these are shared effectively with parents.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Cairen places children's safety at the heart of everything she does. She has an excellent understanding of safeguarding and keeps clear, secure records such as permissions, accident logs, and existing injury forms. Her training is up to date in first aid, food safety, and safeguarding, and she knows how to recognise concerns and take the right action. Regular risk assessments are carried out in the home, outdoors, and on outings to reduce risks.

Parents are kept well informed about incidents and procedures, helping to build trust. Through strong systems and close communication with families, children are kept safe, secure, and well cared for at all times.

More information about Cairen Woodhouse

Regulatory body & the Ofsted registration number	@Home Childcare Childminder Agency CA000017
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Childminder's unique reference number	HCEY00271
Inspection visit date	6 th November 2025
Local Authority	Barnsley
Age range of children	0 – 17

Cairen was registered in 2024 and lives in Barnsley. She has an appropriate qualification at level 6 . Her opening hours are Tuesday to Friday 7.30am to 6pm term time, and Tuesday and Wednesdays in school holidays. 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 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 – j

(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⁾.