

Quality Appraisal Inspection Report

Childminder Early Educator
Inspection report date
Previous inspection date

Cherine Lee
21st July 2026
3rd July 2023

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 Cherine's early years setting?

This childminder early educator is Outstanding.

Children flourish in Cherine's nurturing, inspiring and highly stimulating home, where they feel exceptionally safe, valued and eager to learn. They arrive happily, quickly becoming absorbed in the exciting experiences carefully prepared around their interests. Cherine skilfully transforms children's ideas into meaningful learning opportunities, such as immersive safari role play and sensory story experiences that spark curiosity and imagination. Children are active explorers who confidently make choices, solve problems and share their ideas, while regular visits to parks, open spaces, community venues and gymnastics broaden their experiences and help them develop a deep understanding of the world around them.

Cherine has an exceptional knowledge of every child's individual needs, interests and stage of development. She instinctively adapts her teaching, so every child experiences success, providing just the right level of support and challenge. During a sensory story activity, children eagerly predicted familiar phrases, described textures, smells and sounds using an increasingly rich vocabulary, and confidently expressed their own ideas. Less confident children were thoughtfully supported to engage in ways that suited them, ensuring they remained fully involved and developed the confidence to try new experiences. Cherine's skilful questioning and interactions encourage children to think deeply, communicate clearly and become enthusiastic, independent learners who embrace new challenges.

Children's behaviour is exemplary because Cherine consistently models kindness, respect and consideration for others. They naturally take turns, use excellent manners and confidently express their thoughts, ideas and feelings. Cherine celebrates diversity in meaningful and memorable ways, giving children opportunities to explore different cultures, traditions and communities through real-life experiences, stories and food. Strong partnerships with parents and other professionals ensure every child receives highly personalised support, enabling them to make excellent progress from their individual starting points and preparing them exceptionally well for the next stage in their learning.

What does Cherine do well?

- Cherine uses detailed observations and ongoing assessment to identify children's emerging skills and carefully plans learning that builds progressively on their development.
- She works in close partnership with parents and, where appropriate, other professionals to provide consistent support that meets children's individual needs and promotes the best possible outcomes.

- Teaching is highly effective, with Cherine using skilful questioning, sustained conversations and purposeful interactions to extend children's thinking, language and problem-solving skills.
- Learning experiences are carefully sequenced, enabling children to consolidate previous learning before confidently moving on to more complex skills and knowledge.
- Cherine provides highly individualised support, adapting activities and her approach to remove barriers to learning and ensure every child experiences success.
- Children develop resilience and perseverance because Cherine encourages them to have a go, solve problems independently and embrace new challenges with confidence.
- Children are developing a secure understanding of the wider world through meaningful experiences that help them recognise similarities and differences between people, communities and ways of life.
- Cherine continually reflects on her practice, evaluating the impact of experiences and making purposeful improvements that enhance children's learning and development.
- She actively engages in professional development and successfully translates new learning into practice, ensuring the quality of education continues to evolve.
- The highly personalised curriculum ensures children are exceptionally well prepared for their next stage of learning, both academically and socially.

To maintain outstanding practice Cherine should:

- Continue to build on the strong partnerships with parents by providing further opportunities for home learning that complement children's interests and next steps.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Cherine demonstrates a secure and up-to-date understanding of her safeguarding responsibilities and follows robust procedures to protect children from harm. She confidently recognises the signs and symptoms of abuse, understands the correct reporting procedures, and responds appropriately to disclosures, allegations and concerns. Required records are accurately maintained, and attendance, existing injuries and accidents are effectively monitored. The home and outdoor environment are safe, secure and well maintained, with risk assessments reviewed regularly to minimise hazards and ensure children can play and explore safely.

Cherine keeps her safeguarding knowledge current through regular training and updates, ensuring her practice remains in line with local and national guidance. Parents can be assured that children's safety and wellbeing are a top priority, and Cherine's safeguarding knowledge and practice effectively promote and protect the welfare of every child.

More information about this childminder early educator

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	HCEY00074
Inspection visit date	9 th June 2026
Local Authority	Nottingham City
Age range of children	0 – 17

The educator was registered in 2018 and lives in Nottingham City. She has an appropriate qualification at level 3. The educator is open from 7am to 6pm, 4 days a week all year round. She provides funded early education for children aged 9 months and 2, 3 and 4-year-old children.

Two non-inspection quality assurance visits where no formal judgements took place since Cherine's last inspection in 2023. Cherine received both verbal and written feedback at these visits.

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 and assistant'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⁾.