

Inspection date	19 January 2015
Previous inspection date	7 August 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder has a secure knowledge and understanding of how children learn and develop. She carefully observes their play to assess their skills, and interacts effectively to improve their learning.
- The childminder monitors children's progress in their learning and development effectively to make sure they make good progress.
- The childminder forms secure attachments with children, which effectively promotes their emotional well-being. As a result, they are happy and settled in her care and confidently explore the environment.
- Children's health and well-being is a priority and appropriate safeguarding procedures are in place to protect children from harm. The childminder carefully assesses the risks within her home and minimises these, which helps ensure children's safety as they play.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There is room to work even more closely with parents to share information about children's learning.
- Opportunities for children to consolidate their independence skills are not always available at snack and meal times.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- build on the already good partnerships with parents in order to promote an even more effective sharing of information about children's learning
- build on the different ways that children can develop their independence skills further, for example, by providing opportunities for them to help to prepare their food.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the childminder throughout the inspection and interacted with the children.
- The inspector observed activities in the home and carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the childminder's suitability, children's development records and a range of other records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's self-evaluation and how she seeks and includes the views of parents.
- The inspector took into account the written views of parents that they provided for the inspection.

Inspector
Lynne Pope

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The quality of teaching is consistently good. The childminder delivers activities that capture children's imaginations and provide a broad learning experience. Children are enthusiastic to learn and they get the most out of every experience. For example, the childminder provides a variety of tools for children to use with play dough. They use their imagination really well as they cut with the knife and snip with the scissors. The childminder promotes children's learning through introducing counting how many cakes they have made. She supports their language skills by repeating words, so they hear the correct pronunciation. As a result, children make good progress in their learning. The childminder is fully aware of the importance of obtaining information about each child's individual care needs from parents. She agrees with them how they can work together to meet these needs. However, there is room to extend this partnership so that the next steps in children's learning are shared on a more regular basis to support children to make rapid progress in their learning and development.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Children demonstrate that they are happy and confident. They form strong and secure bonds with the childminder. The childminder helps children build skills in social situations. She shows children how to be kind and polite towards each other by being kind and polite to them. Children respond positively and this helps them as they gain skills in understanding the needs of others and helps to prepare them for the move to nursery or school. The childminder encourages children to be active at every opportunity. For instance, children enjoy climbing some steps and having a run on the way back from nursery. They learn about where different foods come from and healthy eating. They help the childminder plant and grow and have regular visits to the shop where they discuss different foods. Children learn how to manage their own self-care skills as the childminder encourages them to take off their own shoes and coats. However, she does not use all available opportunities, particularly at mealtimes, to help children build further on their developing independence skills.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The childminder has a good understanding of how to keep children safe and promote their welfare. She has completed child protection training and uses the knowledge gained to underpin her knowledge of how to protect children, should she have a concern about their welfare. The childminder completes regular risk assessments of the home and outings to minimise possible hazards. As a result, children are kept safe in her care. The childminder effectively monitors children's achievements and plans for their next steps in learning. She assesses their learning, which effectively identifies at an early stage any delays or gaps that need to be addressed. The childminder regularly evaluates her provision and accurately identifies areas for improvement. She involves parents through an annual questionnaire, that encourages them to comment on the quality of her provision.

Setting details

Unique reference number	403138
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	868996
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	12
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	7 August 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1999 and lives in Seaton Delaval, Northumberland. She operates all year round from 7am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. She holds a formal childcare qualification equivalent to level 3.

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