

Inspection date	21 January 2015
Previous inspection date	11 June 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

- Children make good progress in their learning. The childminder observes children regularly to understand their level of achievement and uses this information well to shape learning experiences for each child.
- Children are motivated to learn because the childminder plans a range of activities to support their individual interests.
- Children settle very quickly into the setting. Flexible settling-in procedures, as well as detailed information about children's likes and dislikes, mean that the childminder is able to meet children's individual care needs effectively.
- Children behave well in the setting. There are clear and consistent boundaries, which children understand and follow. This ensures children are happy in the childminder's care.
- The childminder is committed to her own professional development and works effectively with other childminders to arrange training to meet their needs. This means that she can improve her provision to further meet the needs of the children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There are occasions when children are not always able to engage in periods of uninterrupted play, in order for them to fully explore their own ideas and engage actively in their learning.
- There is scope to extend the already good partnership with parents by gathering even more information from parents about children's learning and development on entry to the setting.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- obtain more detailed information about what children can already do when they first start attending, to inform initial assessments and promote more rapid progress from the outset
- strengthen teaching by increasing opportunities for children to engage actively in their learning by ensuring they have time and space to follow their own interests for extended periods of time.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all parts of the childminder's home used for childminding.
- The inspector observed play and learning activities and spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector viewed regulatory documentation, including evidence of suitability for all household members, children's details, learning files and a sample of policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of written comments provided by parents for the purpose of the inspection.

Inspector

Elizabeth Fish

Inspection findings

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

The childminder provides a good range of activities to promote children's learning and development across the seven areas of learning. Children concentrate intently as they complete a range of jigsaw puzzles. The quality of teaching is good and the childminder usually gives children time to explore things themselves. However, there are occasions when the childminder intervenes too early, either to help children solve a problem or to introduce some planned learning. This interrupts the flow of play and sometimes causes children to lose interest in the activity. Communication and language is supported effectively. The childminder uses good questioning techniques and comments on what children are doing in their play. This helps children make very good progress. Children gain a good range of skills, including early writing and reading skills, which prepare them well for school. The childminder works effectively with parents and shares information about a child's learning and development on a regular basis. However, there is scope to extend this further by obtaining even more detailed information from parents on entry to the setting.

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

Children are very happy in the childminder's care. They have a good relationship with the childminder and enjoy playing games with her. Children are motivated to try new things because the childminder celebrates children's achievements. This gives children the confidence to persevere when things are difficult. The environment is well organised to promote children's independence. Independence is further promoted as young children are encouraged to help prepare snack and feed themselves. They also begin to manage their own personal hygiene. Children have opportunities to be active and engage in physical play, either in the garden or on outings to the park or soft play centres. Children benefit from regular trips to toddler groups to develop their social skills and confidence. Children are well prepared for starting school or nursery. The childminder talks to children about the setting and, where appropriate, visits the setting with children.

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

The childminder has a secure knowledge of the learning and development requirements and how to keep children safe. She has a robust understanding of the procedures to follow if she had a concern about a child in her care. The childminder reviews risks in the environment regularly in order to maintain a safe and secure environment. The childminder is committed to promoting good quality provision for children and their parents. She takes into account the views of parents when evaluating her provision and has clear plans for improvement. The childminder monitors children's learning and takes prompt action when areas of underachievement are identified. The childminder has a very good relationship with local schools. They share planning and talk together about how they can support children more effectively. For example, they share ideas about how to support children who find holding scissors difficult.

Setting details

Unique reference number	311762
Local authority	Gateshead
Inspection number	868041
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	11 June 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1996. She lives in Crawcrook, Gateshead. She operates all year round, from 7am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

