

Inspection date	26 January 2015
Previous inspection date	8 May 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. As a result, teaching is purposeful and children are encouraged to learn through developmentally appropriate play.
- Children are very happy and settled in this homely and welcoming setting. They have good attachments to the childminder, who is very caring and attentive to their needs. This means children explore the environment with confidence as their emotional well-being is very well supported.
- The childminder has developed effective partnerships with parents and other settings that children attend. Children's overall development is discussed in detail to ensure that their individual care, learning and development needs are promoted.
- Children are protected as the childminder has a secure understanding of her role and responsibility to safeguard children. She implements effective practices to minimise hazards to children.
- The childminder is well organised and has a professional approach. She continually reflects on her practice and makes positive changes which bring about improvements for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, the childminder does not give children sufficient time to develop their play experiences and to think about and carry out their own ideas.
- The childminder is not always specific about why she is praising children for their efforts, so that they are encouraged to try different approaches, persist and try again.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's play experiences by fitting in with their ideas and giving them time to think
- explain why children are being praised for their efforts, to further encourage children to try different approaches, persist and try again.

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 and household members, children's development records and planning documentation and a range of other records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's self-evaluation and improvement plan, 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 childminder's knowledge of child development ensures that children are supported effectively, in order to successfully be ready for school. Resources are freely available in the home and children make their own choices. This develops their independence. Children form close relationships with the childminder, who joins in their play, making eye contact and developing their language skills. Exciting activities, such as foam in a tray that children explore, encourage them to use their sense of touch. However, the childminder occasionally jumps in too quickly to guide children, rather than letting them explore in their own way and develop their own ideas. Partnerships with parents are strong and they comment highly on the childminder's provision. The childminder communicates with them in a wide variety of ways to keep them informed about their children's care, learning and development. For example, she provides information verbally, through daily diaries, photo text messages and meetings to discuss their children's development.

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

Children are very settled with this warm and caring childminder as she effectively promotes their emotional well-being, personal and social skills. The childminder has a very calm and consistent manner when caring for children. Their behaviour is good because she takes a consistent approach to managing it. The childminder praises children for their efforts throughout their activities. However, she does not consistently tell them why she is praising them, to fully encourage them to have another go, persist and try things in different ways. Discussions linked to a poster that shows expressions help children understand how to manage their feelings and to take account of others' feelings. For example, they talk about what would make a sad person feel better. Daily fresh air and exercise are promoted. The childminder makes good use of the garden and other outside community spaces. The experiences children receive teach them how to live healthy lives.

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

The childminder has a sound knowledge and understanding of her roles and responsibilities regarding child protection. The childminder's home is safe and secure as she undertakes daily checks. Following her previous inspection, the childminder reflects on her practice and highlights areas for development. She monitors children's progress in learning and development. Regular observations are carried out. She identifies if there are any delays or gaps in children's learning, which helps her to successfully plan future learning. The childminder has a positive attitude towards continuing her professional development through attending regular training. Courses, such as healthy eating, have raised her awareness of portion sizes and means she meets the nutritional needs of children. The childminder has effective procedures to work with professionals, such as health visitors and teachers. She prepares children for attendance at school or nursery through successfully teaching them skills that they will need, such as putting their own coats and shoes on.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY386414
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	873916
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	8 May 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2009 and lives in Blyth, Northumberland. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, 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

