

Inspection date	29 January 2015
Previous inspection date	17 April 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		Outstanding	1
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 is extremely responsive and flexible in order to meet children's individual needs. Children are extremely well supported when they start in the setting and develop the skills they need to move on to school with confidence.
- The childminder works very effectively in partnership with parents to support children's learning and development. As a result, parents feel valued, very well informed and involved in their children's learning.
- The childminder has very good systems in place for observation, assessment and planning. Children's progress is closely monitored and activities and experiences effectively support their continued development.
- Children are very happy in the setting because their emotional and physical well-being is extremely well supported. The childminder is very considerate and respectful to them, treats them as individuals and celebrates and values their achievements.
- Children develop an excellent understanding of keeping themselves healthy. Hygiene routines are followed and they enjoy healthy food, fresh air and exercise as part of their daily routine.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always use books to help younger children make links in their play, in order to maximise their knowledge and understanding.
- Younger children, are not always able to use resources imaginatively and in a number of ways.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the use of books, which support younger children's interests and play, to extend their knowledge and understanding
- enrich the already stimulating learning environment by providing more resources, which can be used in a number of ways, to maximise the opportunities for younger children to play imaginatively.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas of the setting used for childminding.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector viewed a sample of documentation, including policies, children's records, learning journals, planning and assessment files and risk assessments.
- The inspector observed children playing in the living room and the garden.

Inspector

Julia Matthew

Inspection findings

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

Teaching is good and as a result, children make good progress. The childminder knows children well and plans activities and experiences, which support their interests and next steps in learning. Children enjoy playing alongside the childminder as they plan a party tea together. However, the younger children have difficulty making suggestions about party food without visual prompts, such as reference books to help them. Overall, children are very well supported to develop communication, language and literacy skills. Children enjoy writing for a purpose and mark making in the snow. They are encouraged to ask and answer questions and to confidently share their ideas and preferences. As a result, children feel valued, are interested and motivated to learn. The childminder provides a stimulating environment with resources, which support all seven areas of learning, inside and outdoors. However, opportunities for the younger children to develop their imaginative play are not always fully maximised.

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

The childminder provides a safe, secure, warm and inviting environment. Children form strong bonds with her because she gets to know them as individuals, is considerate and sensitive to their needs. As a result, they are confident and happy to approach her for support, encouragement and comfort. Children are extremely well supported to develop independence. The childminder always encourages them to do things for themselves and to persevere when they face challenges. Consequently, they develop resilience and excellent self-help skills. Children have access to a wide range of developmentally-appropriate resources, equipment and tools, which are very well organised and labelled. Children's behaviour is outstanding because the childminder is an excellent role model and has extremely high expectations of them. Children are extremely well supported to learn about risk and keeping themselves safe. The childminder supervises children closely as they engage in risky play and gently reminds them how to move around the setting with care. As a result, children develop the ability to risk assess for themselves.

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, including what to do if she has concerns about a child's welfare. Risk assessments are used to reduce hazards. Comprehensive health and safety policies and procedures are evident in practice. As a result, children are safe. The childminder is highly qualified and uses her understanding of the learning and development requirements to meet children's individual needs. She accurately assesses and tracks progress in order to highlight gaps in learning, which she plans for. The childminder is committed to extending her knowledge, through research and training. This impacts positively on the quality of the setting. The Childminder is reflective and uses the views of children and parents to evaluate her service and plan for development. The childminder has strong partnerships with parents and the local school, which supports continuity of children's care, learning and development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	312396
Local authority	South Tyneside
Inspection number	871933
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	17 April 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2000. She lives in Hebburn, South Tyneside. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has Early Years Teacher Status, a Bachelor of Arts with honours degree in Education and Curriculum Studies and an early years qualification at level 3.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
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