

Inspection date	3 February 2015
Previous inspection date	23 June 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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 provides resources and activities that excite and motivate children to learn across the seven areas of learning.
- The childminder has highly effective partnerships with parents, which supports children's learning at home.
- The childminder is enthusiastic and caring and develops strong bonds with the children in her care. As a result, they are happy, settled and ready to learn from the start.
- The childminder demonstrates a strong commitment to promoting high-quality provision. She regularly completes training to support improvements to the quality of her teaching. This has had a positive impact on the learning experiences she offers children.
- The childminder models positive behaviour very effectively, and as a result, children behave well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always take every opportunity during routine activities to develop children's understanding of healthy eating and self-care.
- The childminder does not consistently reflect on the different ways in which children learn to enrich her planning processes.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use the different ways in which children learn in order to enrich the planning process even further and support children in making the best possible progress
- strengthen children's increasing understanding of how to keep healthy by talking to children about good hygiene practices and healthy eating.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and other documentation, including evidence of the suitability of adults living on the premises, the childminder's qualifications and her self-evaluation.
- The inspector observed activities indoors and in the outside play area.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector took into account views expressed by parents to the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children throughout the inspection.

Inspector

Cathryn Clarricoates

Inspection findings

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

The childminder offers a broad range of activities to promote children's learning and development across the seven areas of learning. Children excitedly measure, pour and mix ingredients to make cakes for older children to eat later. The childminder makes good use of questioning to encourage children to problem solve. For example, she asks 'How many cakes shall we make?' and waits for children to work out the answer. She introduces mathematical words and concepts including shapes, colours, sizes and counting through everyday activities. For example, when children play with dominoes, the childminder helps them to carefully count the pieces and name the colours. The childminder uses regular observations and assessments to check how well the children are doing in their learning. She shares this information with parents. She ensures that parents contribute to children's assessments from the beginning. For example, parents complete an All about me record for their child. The childminder uses this information, about what children can already do, to inform her planning to meet their needs and interests. As a result, children make good progress from their starting points. However, the childminder does not always fully consider in her planning, the various ways in which children can learn to enhance their already good progress.

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

The childminder's home is safe, comfortable and welcoming. Children have positive relationships with the childminder. The childminder offers frequent praise for children's efforts and consistently models positive behaviour. Children play energetically in the garden and on outings to the park or to playgroups. Consequently, children's physical development is promoted well. The childminder provides nutritional, home-cooked meals and snacks and encourages good hygiene routines. However, she sometimes misses opportunities to strengthen children's understanding of the benefits of healthy foods and everyday activities, such as hand washing. The childminder helps children to develop a good awareness of their diverse community. For example, she interests children in craft activities and displays to explore Chinese New Year. As a result, children develop positive attitudes to others and to learning that help them prepare for their move on to nursery or school.

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

The childminder has a robust knowledge of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She has a secure understanding of child protection issues and what to do if she has any child welfare concerns. The childminder assesses risks in her home and the wider community regularly and carefully. As a result, children are safe in her care. The childminder is committed to continuous improvement of provision for children and their families. The childminder uses the views of children and parents to help her in her planning. Strong partnerships with other settings help to maintain continuity of learning and care for children at the family home, at the childminder's home and at nursery.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY318757
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	878051
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	23 June 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2006. She lives in the Chester-le-Street area. The childminder offers early education funded places for two-, three- and four-year olds. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, and 7.30am to 5.00pm on Fridays, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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