

Inspection date	17 March 2015
Previous inspection date	7 September 2011

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 provides a good level of support and challenge for older children. As a result, they are keen, interested learners.
- The childminder supports children to develop social skills and manage turn taking. This is because she is a good role model and manages behaviour positively.
- There are effective relationships in place with parents, schools and other settings which children attend. As a result, children benefit from continuity of care and learning.
- The childminder monitors the education programme thoroughly. Consequently, the seven areas of learning are covered in depth.
- The childminder understands the safeguarding and welfare requirements. Consequently, children are kept safe in her care.
- The childminder uses her self-evaluation effectively to make improvements to her practice and provision. This helps her to maintain a high standard of care for the children who attend.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not sharply focus the next steps for the youngest children's progress. As a result, some valuable learning opportunities are missed.
- The indoor environment is not always well prepared for children to access resources when they arrive. This has an impact on their independence and stimulation.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- sharply focus the next steps for the youngest children's individual learning, in order for them to make rapid progress in areas where they need further support
- prepare the indoor environment in advance, to enable children to be stimulated and make the best use of resources when they arrive.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the children and childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector toured the premises used by children during the inspection and observed children's activities.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at documents, including a selection of policies, children's assessments records and checked evidence of the childminders suitability.
- The inspector observed practice and the interactions between the childminder and children during play and care routines.
- The inspector obtained the views of parents through written feedback.

Inspector

Michelle Lorains

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 good. The childminder recognises how children learn at different rates and has a good understanding of child development. For example, when children of differing ages choose to work creatively, the childminder provides a range of crayons and adjusts the level of support appropriately for each of them. This contributes to the good progress children make across the seven areas of learning. The childminder is skilled in following children's lead which enables them to become active learners. Consequently, children are engaged and interested in their experiences. However, the next steps for the youngest children do not always focus on the areas where they need the most support, such as developing language skills. This does not fully support them to make rapid progress. The childminder teaches older children basic literacy and numeracy skills through play. This helps to prepare them for their eventual move to school.

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

Children demonstrate they feel safe and secure with the childminder. They seek her attention when they are upset and are confident to ask for help if they need it. This is because the childminder is caring, kind and supportive towards them. This has a positive impact on children's emotional well-being and they develop self-confidence. The childminder has effective settling-in procedures which help her to get to know children and their families. As a result, she is able to respond quickly to meet their care needs and effectively communicates with parents. Consequently, children benefit from continuity of care. The childminder provides a large, interesting outdoor space for children to develop physical skills and enjoy fresh air. For example, children thoroughly enjoy learning how to ride the small bikes and use the scooters. However, the indoor environment is not always stimulating for children as it is not prepared for them before they arrive. This means their interest is not captured quickly as all resources are not available for them to access independently.

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

The childminder demonstrates she is committed to improving her practice and provision for the benefit of the children who attend. For example, she has recently completed a relevant childcare qualification and paediatric first-aid training. The childminder teaches children how to keep themselves safe and manage small risks. For example, she talks to children about wearing safety helmets, as they learn to ride the bikes and they practice emergency procedures, such as fire drills. Since the last inspection the childminder has developed her ways of monitoring the education program through observations and assessments. For example, she monitors children's progress regularly to ensure the seven areas of learning are covered in depth and identify gaps in learning effectively.

Setting details

Unique reference number	321321
Local authority	York
Inspection number	872116
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	7 September 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1999, and is on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She lives in the Acomb area of York. The childminder operates all year round, from 8am to 5.30pm, Tuesday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant level 3 childcare qualification.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
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