

**Inspection date**

7 April 2015

Previous inspection date

13 May 2009

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Children make good progress in relation to their starting points. This is because the quality of teaching is consistently good indoors and outdoors.
- The childminder is skilled at following children's lead and adapting her plans for their learning. As a result, children become active learners because they have the opportunity to choose experiences for themselves.
- The childminder has built close relationships with children and knows them well. This has a positive impact on their emotional well-being and children develop self-confidence.
- The childminder effectively monitors children's progress and quickly identifies gaps in their learning. Consequently, interventions to support children are accessed promptly.
- The childminder has a thorough understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. Therefore, children are kept safe and secure in her care.
- The childminder collects feedback from families in order to make improvements to her practice and provision. This demonstrates her drive to maintain high standards for children.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always gather the most up-to-date information about children from parents and other professionals who are involved. This does not promote continuity of learning for children.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance knowledge and understanding of the children who attend, by extending the ways for parents and other professionals involved with children to share further information about their learning and development.

### 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 and children's assessment records, and checked evidence of the childminder's suitability.
- The inspector obtained the views of parents through discussion and 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 childminder understands how children learn through play and individual styles. For example, she provides children with a wide range of resources and encourages them to choose which ones they would like. The childminder uses children's choices and interests to model language, literacy and numeracy skills. As a result, children stay interested in their learning and begin to develop the skills they will learn once they have started school. The childminder effectively observes children across the seven areas of learning. She is confident to assess children's progress and quickly identify areas where they need further support. As a result, all children make good progress in relation to their starting points. However, the childminder does not always have the most up-to-date information from parents and other relevant professionals, in regard to the support from the interventions being accessed. This hinders partnership working and means children do not always work towards a common goal.

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

The childminder has effective settling-in procedures for new children and families. For example, they are welcome to attend visits and build up gradually before they attend full sessions. Consequently, children are very happy and confident to be with the childminder. Children begin to develop self-help skills and an awareness of how to live healthy lifestyles. This is because the childminder supports them to wash their hands and manage personal hygiene for themselves. She provides fresh fruit at snack time and children enjoy talking about the different healthy ingredients they will buy from the shop to bake the following day. The childminder manages behaviour very positively and responds to children when they reach out to her if they feel tired or upset. This demonstrates that they feel safe and secure.

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

The childminder is secure in her understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. For example, she monitors the educational programme effectively and completes regular assessments of children's learning. This contributes to the good progress children make and ensures all seven areas of learning are covered. There are clear risk assessments in place to minimise hazards and the childminder teaches children about safety indoors and outdoors. Consequently, they are confident to manage small risks for themselves and adhere to the house rules. Since the last inspection the childminder has attended training to improve her observation skills and has maintained her first-aid and safeguarding knowledge. This has had a positive impact on children and helps to keep them safe. Parents are very happy with the childminder, particularly the level of support she provides to them and their children. This demonstrates the effort the childminder makes to ensure families feel welcomed and cared for.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	321662
<b>Local authority</b>	Hartlepool
<b>Inspection number</b>	868720
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childminder
<b>Registration category</b>	Childminder
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 17
<b>Total number of places</b>	6
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	8
<b>Name of provider</b>	
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	13 May 2009
<b>Telephone number</b>	

The childminder was registered in 1993 and is on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She lives in Hartlepool. The childminder operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. She holds a level 3 childcare qualification.

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