

<b>Inspection date</b>	2 April 2015
Previous inspection date	2 March 2010

<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

- The childminder has a very good understanding of safeguarding, and robust policies and procedures underpin her good safeguarding practice.
- The childminder has developed strong links with parents, and children's school and nursery, ensuring there is a coordinated approach to children's learning and development.
- The childminder is skilled in providing opportunities for children to extend their mathematical, communication and language skills, for example by introducing mathematical and scientific language during activities.
- The childminder provides a range of stimulating and exciting activities for children. Consequently, children are making good progress in their learning.
- The childminder knows the children very well and is skilful in extending their concentration, which maximises learning opportunities.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children are not always provided with opportunities for spontaneously practising early writing skills, for example, during imaginative play.
- Children's sense of belonging is not always fully maximised as there are no examples of children's art work or photographs available.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to spontaneously practise early writing skills, for example, during imaginative play
- promote children's sense of belonging further, for example, by having some of their art work and photographs available.

## Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the rooms used and looked at the outdoor environment.
- The inspector discussed an activity undertaken during the inspection, with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at suitable times, throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment files and at planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and the qualifications of the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views provided in letters.

## Inspector

Trish Potts

## Inspection findings

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

The childminder has a very good knowledge of the children in her care and is skilful in helping them to extend their concentration, maximising learning opportunities. The childminder supports inclusive practice and has a range of equipment, such as books, puzzles games and role-play toys which are reflective of a variety of cultures and abilities. There is a very wide range of activities which are suitable for children of various stages of development. Resources are readily available for children to use according to their interests and needs, although, there are sometimes missed opportunities for children to spontaneously practise their early writing skills. Parents comment that they are very happy with the progress their children make in their learning and development. They and the childminder regularly discuss children's achievements together and children's next steps for learning. Consequently, children make good progress in relation to their developmental starting points.

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

The childminder recognises the importance of children feeling safe and secure, and has formed strong attachments with them. They are welcomed and are comfortable in her home, although, there are missed opportunities to extend children's sense of belonging as there are no examples of their art work or photographs readily available. The childminder talks to parents about their children ensuring care is tailored to individual children's needs. The childminder promotes children's good health by providing healthy snacks and opportunities for energetic play. The childminder has a very calm and consistent approach to behaviour management, setting realistic expectations. As a result, children are well behaved and respectful to others. Children learn about the importance of staying safe, for example, during cooking activities, they learn about handling equipment safely. Children are confident and sociable with other children, which helps them to emotionally prepare for their next stage in learning.

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

The childminder has a very good knowledge of both the safeguarding and welfare requirements, and the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Children are kept safe as the environment is secure and regular risk assessments are carried out. The childminder monitors children's progress well. She has effective systems for planning and assessment, ensuring children have good learning opportunities across all seven areas of development. The childminder is committed to developing her professional knowledge. She periodically attends training and actively seeks information updates. This, along with ideas from parents and children, helps her to continually evaluate and improve her provision for children. She has achieved a qualification in childcare which has a positive impact on the care and education she provides for children.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY345445
<b>Local authority</b>	Durham
<b>Inspection number</b>	857331
<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>	7
<b>Name of provider</b>	
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	2 March 2010
<b>Telephone number</b>	

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Seaham, Sunderland. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a level 3 qualification in childcare and is a member of the Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years.

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