

Inspection date	13 April 2015
Previous inspection date	27 April 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
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		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder has developed extremely effective partnerships with parents. This is because she successfully motivates parents to regularly contribute to their child's learning. This means that children's learning is significantly enhanced at home.
- The childminder has established highly successful partnerships with other professionals. Consequently, information is consistently shared about children's learning and development, so that there is continuity in their learning.
- The childminder's teaching is inspirational. She extends children's individual learning needs exceptionally well. As a result, children thrive in this setting and make rapid progress in all areas of their learning and development.
- The welfare of the children is exceptionally well promoted. This is because the childminder fully understands her roles and responsibilities in protecting children.
- A comprehensive self-evaluation and a targeted programme of professional development ensure the childminder is consistently improving her already excellent understanding and practice.
- The childminder provides a rich, varied and stimulating learning environment. As a result, children are extremely well motivated, independent and ready to engage in new learning experiences.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary. This is because the childminder is an excellent role model. She is polite and respectful to the children, who are encouraged to use good manners and be kind and caring to each other.
- The childminder has an excellent understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has robust assessment arrangements in place to accurately track the progress of each child. This is highly effective in highlighting any gaps in attainment and also enables her to identify where children may need additional support.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore systems to simplify the way in which indepth assessments of children's progress are reported back to parents.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's house and talked with the children and the childminder.
- The inspector observed the children present and carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation, evidence of suitability of household members, the provider's self-evaluation and a range of other documentation, including the safeguarding procedures.
- The inspector also took account of the views of parents from their written feedback to the childminder.

Inspector

Julie Campbell

Inspection findings

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

The childminder is a highly motivated and skilled teacher. She interacts extremely well with children and uses her knowledge of how children learn to effectively support and promote their development. As a result, all children make excellent progress from their starting points. The childminder expertly talks to children, asking them open-ended questions, which encourages children to extend their thinking. This means children become confident communicators, able to express their own ideas and opinions. The childminder provides really well-organised activities that fully include and engage children of different ages and abilities. For example, children enjoy reading their favourite stories, using puppets and props. The childminder skilfully extends this activity even further. Children show enthusiasm and excitement as they explore natural materials to make a forest for the monster. Children develop their fine motor skills as the childminder expertly encourages them to grip pens and draw shapes and numbers. As a result, all children are exceptionally well prepared for their next steps in learning.

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

The childminder is extremely kind, caring and attentive. As a result, the attachments between her and the children are exceptionally strong. Children enjoy plenty of fresh air and physical exercise through visits to the playgroup and regular access to the outdoor area, where they plant flowers and vegetables. They enjoy cooking and eating the vegetables that they have grown. This also helps children learn about how things grow and what food is good for them. Children are learning to take responsibility for their own safety as they are taught how to keep themselves safe. The childminder gently reminds the children to be careful as they play. Children initiate their own play and remind each other of the house rules. For example, children explain that an activity must be tidied away before they choose another. The childminder celebrates children's achievements throughout the day, offering praise and encouragement. For example, the childminder gives children a 'high five' when they attempt to write numbers. As a result, children are extremely well motivated and have high levels of self-esteem.

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

The childminder has an excellent knowledge of safeguarding and what to do if she has a concern. As a result, children are extremely safe in the childminder's care. She is committed to improving her practice. She attends training courses, which support her development and have a positive impact on children's development. For example, since her last inspection she has completed a level 4 childcare qualification. The childminder fully understands the importance of reflection on her practice. She regularly monitors children's learning to ensure that they are progressing exceptionally well. Parents are extremely well informed of their child's progress. The childminder shares a wealth of information with them. However, she is considering simplifying the feedback given to parents about their children's progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	305796
Local authority	Stockton on Tees
Inspection number	867629
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	27 April 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1999 and lives in the Fairfield area of Stockton-on-Tees. She operates all year round, from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a qualification at level 4.

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