

# Childminder Report

**Inspection date**

22 May 2015

Previous inspection date

12 January 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            |                         | Outstanding | 1        |
| 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**

- Teaching is good, because the childminder has a secure understanding of how young children learn. For example, the childminder uses questioning effectively to promote the development of good communication and language skills.
- The childminder is highly attentive towards children's individual needs. Children approach her for comfort and reassurance. Consequently, children feel safe and are confident and settled. The childminder uses age-appropriate strategies to manage children's behaviour. As a result, children's behaviour is very good.
- Children frequently socialise with other children at playgroups. Consequently, they develop independence in group situations. This prepares them well for the next stage in their learning.
- Children have frequent access to the outdoors for fresh air and exercise. The childminder encourages children to make healthy food choices and follow very good hygiene practices. This very effectively supports their good physical development and good health.
- Safeguarding is a priority for the childminder. The childminder's knowledge and understanding of safe practice and child protection issues are secure and clearly promote robust safeguarding arrangements.
- The childminder is committed to the improvement of her provision. She regularly accesses training to develop her knowledge and understanding of child development, so that she can effectively support children's good progress.

**It is not yet outstanding because:**

- The childminder does not always take every opportunity to extend children's learning, for example, through even better use of the outdoor environment.
- The childminder occasionally misses some opportunities to promote the further development of children's early literacy skills.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve even further opportunities for the development of children's early literacy skills
- identify more opportunities to extend children's learning about the natural world, for example, in the outdoor area, to benefit children who prefer to learn outside.

## Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas used for childminding.
- The inspector observed the childminder playing and interacting with the children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and other household members.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documents, including the childminder's policies and procedures, self-evaluation and the children's records.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents from written feedback provided for the inspection.
- The inspector talked to the childminder and the children at appropriate times during 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 has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Children frequently enjoy fresh air and exercise outdoors. They delight in kicking and throwing balls in the garden, exploring the playhouse and looking at bugs with magnifying glasses. However, occasionally the childminder misses opportunities to add to children's learning, particularly for those children who prefer to play and learn outside. For example, although children use trowels to dig in the soil, they do not grow their own seeds and plants to develop their understanding of the world even further. The childminder skilfully provides many opportunities for conversation and discussion. She frequently introduces mathematical language, including number, size, shape and positional words during activities. Young children listen happily to their favourite songs and rhymes. However, there are fewer opportunities for children to develop their early literacy skills even further, in both play and everyday routines. For example, the childminder does not always promote strongly the link between the spoken and written word, for example, by using the appropriate labels and signs in the playrooms and outside.

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

The childminder is a very positive role model, who encourages children to use good manners. The childminder collects appropriate information from parents, from the start. As a result, she follows children's individual routines and meets their continuing needs very well. The childminder helps children to develop a very strong sense of belonging. For example, she provides many photographs of the children enjoying activities together and displays examples of their work. The childminder understands the importance of supporting children highly effectively during the move to nursery and school. Children enjoy attending groups where they develop their wider awareness of the community. The childminder promotes children's health and safety and independence skills very successfully. Children are taught how to keep themselves safe, both within the childminder's welcoming home and when on fun outings, for example, to the local park. The childminder provides children with healthy snacks and meals and continuous access to drinking water. This has a positive impact on their physical and emotional development.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of how to safeguard children. She makes frequent checks of her home to help to reduce any potential hazards. Consequently, children are protected from harm while in her care. The well-qualified childminder regularly gathers new ideas for her practice, because she attends training and carries out her own research. This ongoing professional development ensures that she knows what to do to improve the quality of children's learning and care. The childminder regularly checks children's progress so that she can identify and address any gaps in their learning. The childminder shares information with parents daily, about what children have been doing and the progress they are making. As a result, partnerships with parents are strong.

## Setting details

|                                    |                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>     | EY378708           |
| <b>Local authority</b>             | Redcar & Cleveland |
| <b>Inspection number</b>           | 858496             |
| <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> | 12 January 2009    |
| <b>Telephone number</b>            |                    |

The childminder was registered in 2008 and lives in Middlesbrough. She holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 4. The childminder operates all year round, from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted). If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate  
Store St  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted)

© Crown copyright 2015

