

Childminder Report

Inspection date

22 June 2015

Previous inspection date

12 February 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- Children make excellent progress. This is because teaching is outstanding and is underpinned by meticulous planning and accurate assessment. Evidence of children's achievements are beautifully presented in children's learning journeys, clearly showing what children know, can do and need to learn next.
- The childminder is exceptionally consistent in the management of behaviour and in the consideration for the feelings of others. Children emulate the behaviour they have seen and heard and so behave extremely well. As a result, children successfully gain vital skills and attitudes that they will need in preparation for school and future life.
- The excellent range of accessible resources offers a highly stimulating and rich environment for children. Consequently, children develop a desire for learning as they investigate, solve problems, explore and lead their own learning.
- The childminder puts children's safety and well-being at the centre of everything she does. Risk assessment is thorough and the childminder fully understands her role and responsibilities in protecting children.
- The childminder is passionate about her work and extremely motivated about ensuring she offers a high-quality provision that meets children's individual needs. Furthermore, her unrelenting commitment and desire for improvement demonstrate an excellent capacity to maintain this quality over time.
- The well-qualified childminder is constantly striving to improve her skills and knowledge, to enhance her professional development. She continues to attend ongoing training courses and undertakes regular research. This has an extremely positive impact on children, who benefit from outstanding learning experiences.
- The childminder clearly understands children's individual personalities and learning styles. This is achieved through highly effective communication with their parents and other professionals involved in their care and education.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- introduce mathematical names for solid three-dimensional shapes, and mathematical terms to help older children to describe shapes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and discussed these with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's records, observation and assessment files, planning documentation and a selection of policies.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and the children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of parents' views through written documentation they had provided for the inspection and the information from the self-evaluation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's qualification and the suitability of all adults living in the home.

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection findings

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

Teaching is outstanding because the childminder has an exceptional understanding of how young children learn and develop. Children initiate much of their own learning through their interests, which the childminder skilfully promotes. Children's interest in the sea leads them to create rock pools. They work out how to make caves for the fish, and are delighted when they find hidden treasure. Children explore textures in their play, for example, they delight in the feel of the foam and cooked pasta. They become totally immersed in their activity and the childminder is always alongside to extend their thinking and reassure them in their discoveries. Children's communication skills develop rapidly because the childminder regularly engages them in conversation and promotes their vocabulary and understanding. They develop a wide range of skills and become increasingly confident learners who can think for themselves and express their ideas. Through all the carefully planned opportunities and very skilful support and challenge from the childminder, children develop high levels of confidence. This means they are very well prepared for the next stage of their education. Every opportunity is taken to develop early mathematical skills and these are expertly incorporated into the activities that children encounter. Nonetheless, there is scope for the childminder to enhance this even further. For example, through introducing mathematical names for solid three-dimensional shapes to enhance older children's learning to its fullest potential.

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

The childminder expertly tailors settling-in arrangements for new children. As a result, children settle quickly, thrive and are very well cared for in welcoming, safe and reassuring surroundings. The childminder obtains detailed information from parents about each child's care needs and current skills. This enables her to meet children's individual needs from the outset, and supports their emotional well-being at a time of change. Children engage in physical play and take part in activities that help them to learn about healthy lifestyles. They tend the fruit and vegetables they grow on the allotment. Time spent at the allotment also helps children learn about nature and wildlife and discover the names of plants and birds. The childminder sensitively and skilfully supports children to be independent in seeing to their self-care, good hygiene and toileting.

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

The childminder is very aware of her role and responsibilities with regard to meeting legal requirements and protecting children in her care. She confidently evaluates the overall effectiveness of her childminding and the impact of what she provides on children's care, learning and development. The childminder continually explores new initiatives in the early years field. For example, following recent training she has reviewed the layout of the playroom to further develop the thoroughly enabling environment she presents. The childminder receives excellent feedback from parents with regard to the thought and detail that she puts into activities, and how well she supports children's individual needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	311704
Local authority	Gateshead
Inspection number	847636
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	12 February 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1997 and lives in Crawcrook, Gateshead. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

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