

# Childminder Report

**Inspection date**

6 July 2015

Previous inspection date

14 February 2011

<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

- The childminder has an exceptional understanding of her role in safeguarding children. She is extremely proactive in the way she helps children's growing understanding of how to keep themselves safe.
- Children are extremely well supported in their communication skills. The childminder joins in their play, skilfully encouraging them to talk about what they are doing, which builds their confidence and self-esteem.
- The childminder knows the children well. She provides activities according to their interests and in line with school and nursery topics, which ensures a coordinated and supportive approach to children's learning.
- Partnerships with parents and other professionals are strong. This supports children's learning and development between home, nursery and the childminder's home.
- The childminder understands the importance of regularly updating her knowledge by attending training and professional meetings, which enhances her provision for children.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder's organisation and storage of writing materials does not enable children to freely practise their early writing skills.
- Children do not always have opportunities to develop their own ideas during art and craft activities.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities for children to practise their early writing skills, for example, by having writing equipment available in all play areas
- provide even more opportunities for children to express their creativity, such as by making art and craft materials more freely available to them.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and learning 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 a sample of paperwork, including policies and procedures, assessment files and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and the qualifications of the childminder.
- The inspector took account of parents' views provided in letters and questionnaires.

### 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 secure knowledge of how children learn and provides a very warm, stimulating environment that forms a good basis for learning opportunities. She provides a very wide range of toys and activities that encourage children to explore and investigate. However, opportunities for children to spontaneously practise their early writing skills and to express their own creativity are sometimes missed as writing and creative equipment is not always readily available. The childminder talks to parents from the start and maintains effective communication with them to ensure children's individual needs are met consistently. The childminder adapts structured activities to suit children's stage of development and she provides opportunities for children to engage in challenging situations. She encourages children to persevere with ongoing projects, such as hatching butterflies, extending their interest and concentration. These skills provide a good basis for children to learn and consequently, they make good progress.

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

The childminder places extremely high importance on children feeling safe, secure and comfortable and is highly skilled in nurturing their growing confidence and self-esteem. She builds very close relationships with children and prominently displays their photographs and artwork. This shows children their work is valued and that their views are very important. The childminder is skilled in promoting children's good health. For example, she consistently provides extremely healthy meals and daily opportunities for outdoor play. Children are extremely well supported in the development of their independence skills. They have learned the rules of personal hygiene as they independently wash their hands after playing outside and before eating. The childminder has an extremely calm and consistent attitude towards behaviour management, with realistic expectations. As a result, children are extremely well behaved and very respectful of other people as well as other living things. These skills help to prepare children extremely well for the next stage in their learning.

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

The childminder has a very good understanding of how to implement the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Policies and procedures underpin her good practice, which helps to ensure children learn in a safe and stimulating environment. The childminder demonstrates a strong commitment to providing a high-quality provision for children. She has completed an additional formal childcare qualification, which has impacted positively on her practice. Children's development records are well maintained and show individual planning and assessments. This demonstrates the good progress children are making. The childminder monitors the educational programmes to ensure all areas of learning are covered and that they provide suitable challenge for children. She is skilled at building on children's interests to extend their learning in all areas.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY288149
<b>Local authority</b>	Hartlepool
<b>Inspection number</b>	861298
<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>	1
<b>Name of provider</b>	
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	14 February 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	

The childminder was registered in 2004 and lives in Hartlepool. She operates all year round from 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a level 3 qualification.

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