

Childminder Report

Inspection date

9 July 2015

Previous inspection date

31 March 2011

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Good | 2 |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|----------|
| | 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 meets legal requirements for early years settings | | | |

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder provides a warm and nurturing environment where children feel happy, safe and secure. As a result, children settle quickly and develop secure emotional attachments.
- The childminder monitors the progress children make, which gives her a good knowledge of each individual child. Therefore, she provides activities that support all children to make good progress in their learning and development.
- Children's behaviour is good. The childminder helps children learn about her expectations and uses praise effectively. This makes children proud and develop high self-esteem.
- The childminder attends statutory training, such as safeguarding. She is aware of the authorities to contact, should she have concerns about a child's welfare. This has a positive impact on children, as she understands how to keep them safe. She is extremely well organised and has a comprehensive set of robust policies and procedures, which underpin her good practice.
- The childminder evaluates her practice, in order to develop her service further. She encourages parents to share their views through regular feedback and the completion of annual questionnaires.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always give children sufficient time to become deeply involved in their own ideas because she sometimes over directs their play.
- The childminder misses opportunities to enhance children's literacy skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that children have more uninterrupted time to lead their play and explore their own ideas
- make books and reading materials more accessible for children to use independently to further promote their literacy skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playroom.
- The inspector sampled children's assessment records, planning documentation and a range of other records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's suitability, training certificates and her self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector and the childminder undertook a joint observation and discussed children's learning while they were engaged in the activities.

Inspector

Maureen Sheekey

Inspection findings

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

The childminder provides children with a wide range of exciting opportunities to explore. She fully understands how children learn and gives them time to try out activities for themselves and develop their problem-solving skills with her support. The childminder skilfully introduces numbers, shapes, colours and counting as children play. Children respond positively as they take their time in deciding which leg is the longest when making a snowman. However, at times, the childminder intervenes with play ideas and interrupts opportunities for children to engage in their own imaginative play. The childminder provides a safe and very welcoming environment with a wide range of toys and activities that interest children. Children have good opportunities to develop their writing skills, with materials they can access independently. They enjoy listening to stories with the childminder. However, they are not always able to access the wide range of books independently. This does not promote their enjoyment in words and books.

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

The childminder has created a warm and homely environment. Children develop good relationships with the childminder and other members of her household. Consequently, their emotional needs are extremely well supported and they are confident in exploring their surroundings. Children go on regular outings to toddler groups, local shops, the farm and library. This supports children's understanding of the wider world. Children enjoy activities outdoors everyday, either in the well-equipped garden or local parks. This gives children regular exercise and access to fresh air. Children bring healthy packed lunches and snacks from home. The childminder promotes children's health well. She teaches them about the importance of handwashing and healthy eating as part of her daily routines. Children are helped as they move to other settings. The childminder discusses their new school with them, including which of their friends are going and who their teacher will be. She works closely with parents and completes a daily diary, which outlines what children have been learning. Therefore, parents are well informed and able to continue children's learning at home.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of her responsibility to meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has strong systems for observations, assessments and planning for children's ongoing good progress towards the early learning goals. The childminder is qualified in early years and uses her knowledge well to plan challenging and engaging activities for all children across all seven areas of learning. She has robust risk assessments in place and daily safety checks are completed to ensure the environment is safe for children. Partnerships with parents and other settings are positive and supportive. This helps to promote continuity in children's learning and care.

Setting details

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|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Unique reference number | EY367052 |
| Local authority | Durham |
| Inspection number | 863876 |
| Type of provision | Childminder |
| Registration category | Childminder |
| Age range of children | 0 - 17 |
| Total number of places | 6 |
| Number of children on roll | 3 |
| Name of provider | |
| Date of previous inspection | 31 March 2011 |
| Telephone number | |

The childminder was registered in 2008 and lives in Carrville, Durham. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

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Piccadilly Gate
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M1 2WD

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