

Childminder Report

Inspection date

16 July 2015

Previous inspection date

18 May 2011

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 is highly skilled at observation, assessment and planning. She captures detailed and comprehensive information about how children learn, by closely observing their play and involvement with others. She uses his expert knowledge of the areas of learning to plan meaningful activities, which are skilfully tailored to children's individual interests and needs.
- The childminder provides excellent learning opportunities, through imaginative and creative activities and projects. This ignites children's enthusiasm for learning.
- The childminder shows a sensitive and caring nature towards children. She gently guides them towards considerate behaviour, by encouraging them to make responsible choices and to think about the feelings of others.
- The childminder's home is exceptionally well organised. She creates stimulating play areas indoors and uses the garden frequently to significantly enhance children's enjoyable and challenging learning experiences. A varied and stimulating range of high-quality toys and equipment are freely accessible to children. This encourages them to actively explore their surroundings.
- The childminder has extensive knowledge of all safeguarding procedures. Consequently, she knows how to protect children from harm and when to notify authorities of any concerns about a child's welfare.
- The childminder attends mandatory training, carries out her own research and exchanges examples of good practice and activities with other childminders. This has an extremely positive impact on children, who benefit from outstanding learning experiences.
- Children make excellent progress because the childminder fosters exceptionally positive relationships with their parents and other practitioners. She works closely with them to skilfully extend their children's skills and understanding.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to explore professional development opportunities to sustain excellence in practice and teaching skills.

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.
- 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

The childminder fully understands, and is very responsive to, each child's characteristics and interests, promptly adapting her teaching and resources to cater for these. As a result, young children are confident, eager to take part and have fun. The childminder provides a broad range of exciting, creative activities to significantly enhance children's mathematical development. For example, children show high levels of interest as they create and decorate their boat made from recyclable boxes. They develop an excellent understanding of size, shape and measure as they recognise big and small containers and cut string to the correct length. The childminder skilfully enhances children's learning by introducing words to describe flat and solid shapes. This helps children to connect mathematical ideas to their play. The childminder is very skilled at playing alongside children and knowing precisely when to intervene to extend children's learning. She uses careful questioning and gives children opportunities to explain and give reasons for why something has happened. Every opportunity is taken to encourage communication and language skills further, and to introduce new vocabulary through discussion and role play. Consequently, children make excellent progress and develop exceptional skills to enhance their future learning, in readiness for school. The childminder regularly discusses and reviews children's progress and learning priorities with parents.

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. She wants children and their families to have enough time to get to know her, her family and the daily routines and activities. The childminder talks to children with positive encouragement at all times, which helps them to develop their confidence and high levels of self-esteem. Consequently, children thoroughly enjoy their time with the childminder. She helps pre-school children to manage their self-care with high levels of independence, by encouraging them to wipe their own nose and wash their hands when needed. Children benefit from nutritious meals, snacks and drinks, which include freshly prepared ingredients. The childminder ensures children play outside regularly, resulting in opportunities for them to develop their skills, such as climbing and running. This helps them to develop a healthy lifestyle and fosters their healthy growth and development.

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

The childminder has excellent knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She is passionate about her work with children and families. The childminder is extremely motivated and uses her skills and knowledge well to ensure she offers a high-quality provision that caters for their individual needs. As part of this, the childminder confidently evaluates the overall effectiveness of her childminding service and how this impacts on children's care, learning and development. She has already identified further training to enhance her teaching knowledge even further to ensure she maintains and continuously builds upon her excellent quality practice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY409635
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	851022
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	18 May 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2010 and lives in Morpeth, Northumberland. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except 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. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email 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.

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
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

