

Childminder Report

Inspection date

27 July 2015

Previous inspection date

3 November 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

- The childminder's outstanding teaching significantly contributes to all children achieving exceptionally well over time. The many learning opportunities planned by the childminder embrace children's own ideas and interests, and are highly engaging. She skilfully reshapes activities quickly to extend children's learning and understanding.
- 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. This successfully promotes children's safety and well-being to a very high standard.
- Children are given many opportunities to be independent from a young age. The childminder supports children superbly well so they are emotionally well prepared for their future learning and their eventual move to school.
- The childminder has an excellent understanding of her role and responsibilities with regards to safeguarding children's welfare and has attended training on the subject, securing her knowledge.
- The childminder implements extremely thorough processes for self-evaluation. She maintains up-to-date evaluations of her practice and gathers feedback from parents and children, which she effectively uses to plan targets and drive forward improvement.
- The childminder works closely with the other early years settings the children attend. Children's progress and planned activities are discussed. This collaborative approach to children's care and learning has a significant impact on children's ongoing development.
- Parents express enormous confidence in the childminder's very high standard of care. They value the excellent level of two-way communication and the way that she respectfully listens and responds to their views.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus even more on individual children's precise learning needs.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and evaluated these jointly with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's records, observation and assessment files, 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 childminder's 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

The childminder takes every opportunity to encourage children's communication and language skills, and to introduce new vocabulary through discussion and play. The childminder's teaching of early reading skills is highly effective. Older children are able to link letters to sounds. They confidently identify the letters in their name and are able to write their name on their work. Children enjoy reading and rapidly develop a very good understanding of books. They know that books and computers provide them with information. Children have ample opportunities to explore and express their creativity. Children's precise use of mathematical language is noticeable and opportunities for counting or developing early calculation skills are taken whenever they arise. The childminder is highly successful at observing children's development. She uses the knowledge gained to undertake individual planning with very clear learning objectives for each child. However, the childminder acknowledges that for those children who are left-handed this needs to be even more precise. Children's learning journals reflect the range of activities they have experienced with the childminder and the annotations reflect the exceptional progress they have made.

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

An effective settling-in period ensures the childminder knows children well and is able to cater for their individual needs from the start. This helps significantly to establish extremely secure attachments with the childminder and children are clearly very happy in her care. Children are taught to understand their feelings and to show respect. The childminder is an excellent role model, gently reinforcing simple rules and demonstrating how to share and take turns. Children develop a clear understanding of right and wrong and their behaviour is exemplary. Praise is used purposefully to develop children's self-confidence and well-being. Children develop a remarkable understanding of how to keep themselves healthy and safe. Their physical well-being is exceptionally well promoted through the many opportunities they have to be active.

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

The childminder has an excellent understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements. She draws on many years of experience and expertise working with children in the early years. The childminder consistently builds upon her skills through training opportunities and carrying out her own early years research. She meets with other childminders, which enables her to exchange ideas, share good practice and maintain her drive for sustaining excellent practice. The childminder accurately identifies her strengths and is extremely committed to her work. She is highly reflective on her practice and strives to do the very best she can for every child attending her setting. This contributes to the rapid progress that children make. The childminder has a very strong relationship with parents. They are fully involved in all aspects of children's learning and receive excellent information about children's progress and next steps in learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	311748
Local authority	Gateshead
Inspection number	847637
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	3 November 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1992 and lives in Crawcrook, Gateshead. She operates all year round from 7.15am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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