

Childminder Report

Inspection date

28 July 2015

Previous inspection date

15 May 2012

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 quality of the childminder's teaching is excellent. As a result, the children make very rapid progress in all areas of their learning. Exciting activities are planned for children that highly motivate them and promote their learning and development to the highest level.
- Partnerships with parents are very strong. Highly successful strategies are in place to keep them updated with the progress their child is making.
- The childminder reviews all children's progress exceptionally well. Regular summaries of learning are completed, including the progress check for children between the ages of two and three years. This information is used to plan highly challenging activities that promote children's learning to the highest level.
- Children's independence skills are fostered extremely well by the childminder. She plans inspirational, playful activities to help children develop the skills they require to feed themselves.
- Children's physical health is exceptionally well supported. The childminder provides a superb range of nutritious and healthy meals for children. She ensures they access the outdoor environment, engaging in rich, imaginative and varied activities that promote all aspects of their learning.
- The childminder meticulously reviews children's assessments. This ensures any gaps in children's learning are quickly identified and intervention is secured, to meet their individual needs.
- The childminder continually reviews and reflects upon all aspects of her provision. She actively seeks the views of parents to help her identify areas for improvement, which support children's achievements over time.
- The childminder provides an exceptional range of resources that children can use, move and explore in a wide variety of ways.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the already wide range of resources provided when children first start attending, to help them settle even further when they begin to stay on their own.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all parts of the childminder's home used for childminding.
- The inspector observed play and learning activities, and spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector viewed regulatory documentation, including evidence of suitability checks, children's details, learning journals and a sample of policies and procedures.
- The inspector discussed self-evaluation and how this is organised to drive improvements that benefit children.

Inspector

Nicola Jones

Inspection findings

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

The childminder supports children's communication and language skills exceptionally well. She uses a superb range of strategies to help children to broaden their vocabulary. This means that young children begin to use a wider range of words as they play. The childminder is well qualified and has first-class knowledge of how young children learn and develop. She uses this extremely well to complete accurate, precise assessments of children's learning, involving parents at all stages. This provides a full picture of children's development, supporting their learning both at home and with the childminder. Teaching highly motivates children to develop their early counting skills. Innovative activities are provided to enable children to recite number names in sequence. This prepares children exceedingly well with the skills they require in readiness for school. Excellent use is made of routine outings, to ignite children's curiosity and promote their learning in an innovative way.

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

The childminder welcomes children into her warm and friendly home environment where they develop strong relationships with her and other members of her family. High levels of care are provided and children are supervised extremely well at all times. The childminder ensures she is close by and available so that children feel safe, develop confidence and are motivated when exploring their surroundings. Children are supported to develop an excellent understanding of behavioural expectations within the childminder's home. They are encouraged to take part in activities and the childminder gives them explanations so they develop an excellent understanding of the importance of keeping the environment safe. The childminder supports children's emotional and physical needs very well when they first start attending. They make a number of visits and effective use is made of information gathered from parents to provide continuity in routines, such as sleeping and feeding. However, some children do not have access to resources that will help them to settle and develop their confidence even further, when they stay on their own.

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 uses her knowledge exceptionally well to provide a safe, secure and stimulating environment that promotes children's learning to the highest level. Children are safeguarded extremely well. The childminder is highly committed to accessing training to ensure her knowledge and practice is continually updated. She has very strong knowledge of signs and symptoms that may indicate possible abuse. She knows how to act swiftly and in an appropriate way should she have any concerns regarding a child in her care. Partnerships with local schools, external agencies and other settings children attend are very well established. The childminder is proactive in sharing information in order to complement and continue all aspects of children's development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY421579
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	852234
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	15 May 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Durham. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant childcare qualification at level 3.

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