

Childminder Report

Inspection date

3 August 2015

Previous inspection date

15 February 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 is well qualified and experienced. She has a secure knowledge of how children learn. The childminder plans appropriate activities that provide good levels of challenge across all seven areas of learning.
- Children's individual care needs are consistently well met. Children demonstrate a strong sense of belonging.
- Children are beginning to understand about healthy lifestyles and good hygiene practices. They enjoy physical exercise and fresh air daily when they go on outings. Children are learning to be independent.
- The childminder regularly reviews her practice and has identified clear targets for improvements.
- Partnerships with parents and other providers are strong. Good quality information is shared well to help ensure continuity in children's learning.
- Safeguarding procedures are implemented very effectively. The childminder has a secure understanding of how to protect children from potential harm. She understands the correct referral processes, should she have any concerns about children's welfare. The childminder carries out regular safety checks of her home and equipment. This contributes towards her promoting children's safety well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The outdoor areas of the childminder's home are not fully used to further promote children's learning, particularly for those children who prefer learning outside.
- The childminder does not provide frequent opportunities for children to explore and investigate.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's use of the outdoor areas, particularly for those children who prefer to learn outdoors
- provide more opportunities for children to investigate and explore.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the childminder's home.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the childminder's interactions with the children during play activities and routines.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and the children at appropriate times.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documents and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to at the inspection and in written feedback.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's qualifications and the suitability of all adults living at the premises.

Inspector

Cathryn Clarricoates

Inspection findings

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

The childminder teaches children successfully through a balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities that cover all the areas of learning. She skilfully uses questioning and commentary to promote children's good communication and language skills. Children are confident to choose what they would like to do from a wide range of accessible toys and activities. This helps to promote children's independence skills very well and ensures that they are well prepared for nursery and school. However, there are fewer opportunities for younger children to explore and investigate. The childminder completes individual learning records that capture children's progress through photographs and observations. She ensures that she collects good quality information about children from the start. The childminder uses this information to plan effectively for the next steps in children's learning. Children are making good progress from their starting points.

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

Children's good health is well supported. They enjoy helping to prepare their own healthy snacks. Children have access to drinking water at all times. They enjoy exercise during outings to the park and to spacious indoor play areas in the community. Children are learning to socialise in larger groups, in preparation for nursery and school. However, the childminder does not fully extend children's learning experiences into the garden at her home. Children behave well. The childminder encourages them to develop polite behaviour and to be kind and share toys and resources. Children are happy and settled. They have warm and affectionate relationships with the childminder. This supports their emotional security very effectively. Parents are extremely positive about the childminder's support for their children's care, learning and development.

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

The childminder has a good knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements. She has updated her safeguarding training and plans to attend a further course later in the year. The childminder knows what to do if she has concerns about a child's welfare. Good written policies are implemented well and shared effectively with parents. The childminder has professional development support from a local early years adviser. She updates her knowledge regularly. This helps her to keep children safe and supported in their learning. The childminder has established highly effective partnerships with parents and other early years providers. She receives relevant information about what children do in nursery and uses this to help support their continued good progress. The childminder considers carefully how she can improve her practice. She takes into account the views of parents and children to identify priorities for continuous improvement.

Setting details

Unique reference number	305773
Local authority	Stockton on Tees
Inspection number	864833
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	15 February 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1995 and lives in Eaglescliffe, Stockton-on-Tees. She operates all year round, from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3.

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