

Childminder Report

Inspection date

31 July 2015

Previous inspection date

26 October 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

- Teaching is good and the childminder effectively builds on children's learning so that they make good progress from their starting points. She uses her knowledge of the children to support the next steps in their learning.
- The childminder plans a broad range of activities and learning opportunities based on children's interests. As a result, children are involved, interested and motivated in their learning.
- The childminder shows enthusiasm and a positive attitude to continually developing and improving her practice. She evaluates what she does and is keen to attend further training. This has a positive impact on the quality of her provision.
- Children are happy and settled in this welcoming and friendly setting. They develop close emotional attachments to the childminder and readily go to her for support with activities.
- The childminder provides older children with the support and skills they need to prepare them for starting school. For example, she has a good understanding of the early skills that help to prepare children for reading and writing.
- The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of how to protect and safeguard children. She uses her effective policies and procedures to promote children's safety and welfare.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always obtain full and ongoing information from parents about children's achievements.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- refine the methods used to encourage parental contributions towards children's assessments, in order to more accurately identify and plan for children's changing needs.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector made checks on the suitability and qualifications of the childminder. She looked at a selection of policies, documentation and children's records.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and from those expressed in questionnaires.
- The inspector observed care and learning activities in the indoor and outdoor play areas.

Inspector

Estella Champion

Inspection findings

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

Children confidently explore the learning environment. They can select their own activities from the well-organised play areas and follow their own interests. As the childminder plays with the children she makes suggestions about how they could extend and develop their play. She provides children with challenge and she encourages curiosity and problem solving through the questions she asks. The childminder promotes children's language development well by modelling conversation and introducing new vocabulary. Parents are kept informed of children's progress through daily discussions and the sharing of learning journals, in which the childminder documents learning and development. However, the childminder does not regularly gather information from parents about children's learning at home. This means she does not always get a full picture of children's achievements in order to plan complementary teaching in the setting.

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

Children appear to be very settled and happy in the childminder's care. She is an effective role model and consistently and positively reinforces the high expectations she has for behaviour. As a result, the children behave very well towards each other. Children are encouraged to listen to each other, take turns, share and tidy away resources when they are finished playing with them. This helps them to develop the social skills necessary for the next stage in their learning, such as starting school. Children's physical development and understanding of healthy lifestyles are effectively supported by the childminder. Children have good access to a well-equipped outdoor play area where they are helped to identify and safely manage risks. The childminder provides children with healthy meals and snacks. Children are encouraged to get involved with making healthy food choices and help to prepare their snack when appropriate.

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

The childminder understands her responsibility to ensure that she meets the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The childminder is well qualified and keeps her training up to date. For instance, she has recently updated her knowledge of the early skills needed to help children's reading and writing development. As a result, she is now better able to plan activities to support and assess children as they gain these key skills. The childminder has developed very effective links with the other settings which some children attend. She meets with the children's key workers at the other settings to discuss development and progress. The regular use of communication books with the other settings helps to support good continuity for children's care and learning. Parents report that they feel their children are very happy and receive excellent care with the childminder. Parents' and children's views contribute to the childminder's development plans. The childminder thoughtfully evaluates her own practice and ensures that developments are targeted to improve experiences for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY408075
Local authority	York
Inspection number	850885
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	26 October 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder lives in the Acomb area of York and was registered in 2010. She operates from 7am until 5.30pm, Tuesday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has an appropriate qualification at level 5. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
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M1 2WD

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