

Childminder Report

Inspection date

14 August 2015

Previous inspection date

18 April 2012

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		Outstanding	1
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 quality of teaching is good. The childminder uses effective teaching methods that motivate children to learn. This helps children to gain the skills needed for their next stage in learning, including school.
- Partnerships with parents are good. This contributes towards information being consistently shared about children's learning and development.
- Children have access to a stimulating learning environment, both indoors and outdoors. This helps them to be motivated, independent and ready to learn.
- The childminder works well with other professionals. She shares information and provides activities that complement children's learning.
- Children have developed exceptionally strong relationships with the childminder and her assistant, which helps to successfully promote their confidence and emotional well-being.
- The childminder and assistant fully understand their roles and responsibilities in protecting children. This contributes towards the welfare of children being exceptionally well promoted.
- The childminder has a strong commitment to developing her provision. She and her assistant attend regular training, which drives forward improvements to their practice.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, children are not given a clear explanation about the purpose of activities to extend their understanding about what they are doing.
- The childminder and her assistant occasionally miss some opportunities to encourage children to use more complex sentences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with an explanation at the beginning of planned activities, so that they know what they need to do and the reasons why they are taking part
- encourage children to use more complex sentences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a range of indoor and outdoor learning activities and talked with the children, assistant and the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from their written feedback to the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation, evidence of suitability of household members, the provider's self-evaluation and a range of other documentation, including the safeguarding procedures.
- The inspector observed the children present and carried out a joint observation with the childminder.

Inspector

Julie Campbell

Inspection findings

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

The childminder and her assistant use their good knowledge of how children learn to effectively support and promote their development. Children's progress is recorded well through observations, photographs and samples of their work, which are shared with parents regularly. Children show excitement and enthusiasm as they splash in puddles and talk about the weather. Overall, children develop good communication and language skills. The childminder and her assistant constantly talk to children as they play. However, they do not always encourage children to use more complex sentences. Children use their senses to freely explore malleable materials to develop their exploratory skills. However, occasionally the childminder and her assistant do not provide an explanation about the purpose of activities, to extend children's understanding about what they are doing. The childminder promotes children's independence skills in everyday activities.

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

Children form very strong attachments with the childminder and her assistant, because they are exceptionally caring and sensitive to every child's needs. Children are gradually introduced into the setting and form strong bonds with the childminder and her assistant. This helps children to settle easily into their care and be very happy and content. The childminder is an excellent role model, she is polite and respectful to children who are encouraged to use good manners. Children benefit from regular opportunities to play in the garden, where a wealth of resources and equipment are readily available. In addition, children go on regular outings, which helps to promote their physical development well. The childminder and her assistant are highly skilled in handling children's behaviour. They have high expectations and offer clear routines and boundaries. Children's behaviour is exemplary. They show very high levels of self-control and confidence during group activities. Children's good health is effectively promoted. Children are provided with healthy meals and snacks. They enjoy peeling and chopping their own fruit during snack time.

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

The well-qualified childminder has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has good systems in place to monitor children's progress. The childminder gathers a wealth of information from parents about children's starting points and information about what they are doing at home. Parents are kept well informed about their child's achievements, through daily diaries and individual planning sheets. The childminder has forged good relationships with other early years providers. The childminder has established a good supervision programme for her assistant. They meet regularly to discuss children's learning and development and review the assistants practice. They attend relevant training, including first aid and safeguarding, and the childminder ensures that they continually update their skills and knowledge.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY432770
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	874579
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	18 April 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Crook, County Durham. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for family holidays. The childminder works with an assistant. The childminder has a childcare qualification at level 5. The childminder provides funded early education for two-year-old children.

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