Childminder Report



Inspection date Previous inspection date		12 August 24 March			
The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:		Good	2	
	Previous inspection:		Outstanding	1	
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 consistently good. The childminder has a secure understanding of how children learn through play. She provides activities that are stimulating and effectively challenge children. The childminder uses information from parents and her own observations and assessments to establish clear starting points for children's learning.
- Children's emotional well-being is promoted well and they thoroughly enjoy their time in the childminder's home. They are very happy in her care and form strong bonds and secure relationships.
- Safeguarding is given high priority by the childminder. She knows how to keep children safe and she supervises them vigilantly. Daily risk assessments are carried out to help ensure that the setting is safe for children to use.
- The childminder works successfully with parents and ensures that they consistently receive information to effectively support children's care and learning at home.
- The childminder has established effective partnerships with local nurseries and schools to help maintain good continuity in children's care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always provide opportunities that help children to develop awareness of similarities and differences between people or in the world around them.
- The childminder sometimes misses opportunities to involve children in meaningful activities that develop their understanding of growth, decay and changes in nature.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the range of opportunities for children to develop their awareness of the similarities and difference between themselves, others and in the wider world
- extend opportunities for children to learn about changes in nature.

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 the views of parents through written documentation they had provided for the inspection and through the information contained in the childminder's self-evaluation form.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's qualifications 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 good

The childminder demonstrates through her good teaching that she has a secure knowledge and understanding of how young children learn and develop. Children's social and communication skills are enhanced well through activities and conversations that evolve through play. The childminder knows the children in her care well. She understands what interests each child and how they prefer to learn. However, she provides few opportunities for children to learn how everyone is different and to understand differences in society beyond their own community. The childminder asks children skilful questions to promote their thinking during activities. Children take part in a painting activity and experiment with the different colours. The childminder extends their thinking as she encourages them to predict what colours they will make when they mix the paints together. Children use their imaginations as they pretend to be a shop keeper. The childminder actively joins in with children's play. This helps them to be motivated and stay engaged in their learning. The childminder extends children's mathematical learning so that they begin to understand that an amount can be changed by adding to it or taking away. This helps children to gain valuable skills in preparation for their move on to school.

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

Children enjoy the welcoming, homely atmosphere the childminder provides. Her wellestablished routines ensure that children develop good hygiene practices. Parents provide their children with healthy packed lunches and the childminder ensures that children drink plenty of water. However, the childminder does not fully exploit opportunities to develop children's understanding of how things in the natural world grow and change over time. Children behave very well. They happily share, take turns and show consideration for each other. The childminder gives regular praise, encouragement and support, which helps to develop children's confidence and self-esteem. Children have daily fresh air and exercise. They use various challenging equipment that promotes their physical development well and encourages them to take calculated risks.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She tracks children's progress, which gives her a clear picture of their current abilities and enables her to identify any gaps in their learning. The childminder regularly reviews the overall quality and effectiveness of her provision. This helps her to recognise her strengths as well as accurately identifying her priorities for improvement. The childminder puts children's safety at the centre of everything she does. Risk assessments are thorough and used well to identify and minimise hazards. The childminder supervises children well. Consequently, children's safety is promoted to a high standard. The childminder is well qualified and continues to access training to boost her professional development. This helps her to keep up to date with best practice, new initiatives and changes in legislation.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY314230	
Local authority	York	
Inspection number	849022	
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	24 March 2009	
Telephone number		

The childminder was registered in 2005 and lives in York. She operates all year round from 7.15am to 6.30pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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