

Childminder Report

Inspection date

28 August 2015

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Children's communication and language skills are promoted well. The childminder and her assistant use effective strategies which help children to broaden their vocabulary and develop confidence in speaking.
- The childminder makes good use of her outdoor area to promote children's understanding of the natural world. This stimulates their senses and supports their all-round learning and development.
- Children's behaviour is good. The childminder uses effective strategies to help children understand the boundaries and expectations within her home.
- The childminder demonstrates an understanding and willingness to work in partnership with local schools and external agencies to support children's individual needs.
- The childminder enhances her professional knowledge by accessing training opportunities. This makes a positive contribution towards meeting children's individual needs.
- The childminder supports children well with developing their large physical skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always ask all parents to contribute to the initial assessments of their children's starting points on entry, in order to obtain a complete picture of their development.
- Children are not always able to see what toys and resources are available for them to choose from, in order to initiate and direct their own play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- obtain more detailed information from parents about what children can already do when they first start attending, to inform the initial assessments and planning process
- provide more ways for children to see the wide range of toys and resources available, in order to choose them and direct their own play.

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 the children.

Inspector

Nicola Jones

Inspection findings

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

The quality of the teaching provided by the childminder and her assistant is consistently good. Children make good progress in all areas of their learning and development. The childminder makes good use of play-based activities to help children learn new mathematical vocabulary. This helps children to begin to use new words and terminology as they play, preparing them well for school. Good systems are in place to observe and assess children's learning. This information is used well by the childminder to plan for children's next steps in learning, which helps them to make good progress. Regular exchanges of information about children's achievements from the childminder ensure that parents are kept updated with the progress their child is making. However, the childminder does not obtain detailed information from all parents about what children can do when they first start attending, to contribute to her initial assessments and planning process.

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

Children are happy and enjoy the time they spend with the childminder and her assistant within her home. They are motivated to try the activities available and show confidence in exploring their environment. Good quality information is shared regarding children's welfare on entry. This ensures that information, such as children's routines are maintained and their individual emotional and physical needs are met. The childminder provides a selection of toys to promote children's learning. However, most resources are stored in cupboards and upstairs. Children are not always able to see the extended range that is available for them to help them make independent choices and initiate their own play. Children's physical health and safety is supported well. They access the garden area on a daily basis, where they are supervised well and enjoy regular outings in the local area. The childminder effectively records any accidents or existing injuries children may present with or sustain while in her care. This information is shared well with parents and is monitored by the childminder to ensure that children's physical well-being is supported at all times.

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

The childminder is qualified and has good knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She maintains a good overview of her provision and reviews what is working well and identifies areas for improvement, to benefit children's achievement. The childminder's assistant is well supported through regular supervision. The childminder oversees her work and is encouraging her to attend training to improve her practice. Children's progress is analysed on a regular basis. The childminder reviews children's assessment information to identify if intervention is required, to meet children's needs. Children are safeguarded well. The childminder and her assistant know what action to take if they have concerns about a child in their care or if an allegation is made against them. All required documentation is in place, including a daily register of attendance, to protect children further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY479009
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1025220
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 7
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	12
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2014 and lives in Consett, County Durham. She operates all year round from 5.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works alongside an assistant. The childminder holds a relevant childcare qualification at level 2.

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