

Childminder Report

Inspection date	15 October 2015
Previous inspection date	11 June 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children have developed strong relationships with the childminder and her assistant. They are very caring and responsive to children's individual needs. This successfully promotes children's personal and social development and emotional well-being.
- The quality of teaching is good. The well-qualified childminder provides stimulating and challenging activities which support children's interests and individual stages of development. Children are highly motivated and make good progress.
- The childminder uses effective systems to monitor the performance of her assistant. They regularly observe and reflect on each other's practice which enables them to enhance future learning opportunities for children.
- The childminder promotes children's understanding of healthy lifestyles. Children have regular opportunities for physical play, follow clear hygiene practices and thoroughly enjoy a good range of nutritious meals and snacks.
- The childminder evaluates her practice and identifies areas for development. This includes identifying areas for professional development which will improve her teaching skills. Therefore, her capacity for continuous improvement is strong.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Strategies used to encourage parents to share information about their children's learning at home are not always successful.
- The childminder does not always plan precisely for children's next steps in learning, in order to promote more rapid progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore further ways to help parents to share information about what children are learning at home
- maximise the use of observations and assessments so that planning for children's next steps in learning is more sharply focused.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed the premises, toys and equipment.
- The inspector talked to the childminder, her assistant and children at appropriate times during the inspection and carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's qualifications and evidence of the suitability of all adults living and working in the home.
- The inspector reviewed relevant documentation, including the childminder's self-evaluation document, children's learning journals and a sample of policies and procedures.

Inspector

Karen Tervit

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder and her assistant have a secure understanding of the action they need to take if they have concerns about a child's welfare. The environment is safe and secure and potential risks to children in the home and on outings are minimised. The childminder reflects upon her practice and is committed to improving her provision. For example, since her last inspection she has positively addressed the recommendations raised and has also completed a childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder holds discussions with her assistant about his performance and responsibilities within the setting. This ensures there is a collaborative and consistent approach to children's care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder understands the importance of promoting all seven areas of learning and does this extremely well. She gently supports and extends children's learning. For example, she sits alongside them as they play, helping children to experiment with building towers using the stacking resources, encouraging them to name colours and talk about different sizes. Children independently access a good range of developmentally appropriate resources and often become deeply engrossed in their play. For example, children enjoy making musical noises using a variety of resources and quickly learn how to press the buttons of electronic toys to see what happens. The childminder values children's utterances and encourages them to share their thoughts, ideas and needs. For example, she listens carefully and repeats words back to them correctly. This helps children become confident communicators.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a warm, welcoming and homely environment for children. She teaches children the importance of being polite and kind to each other. She helps them to play alongside other children and share their resources. Children behave very well and are developing good social skills. The childminder obtains detailed information from parents about children's routines and interests when children start. This helps her to ensure she meets the needs of children helps them to settle in. For example, she recognises the signs that children are becoming tired. She follows home routines by gently rocking them before settling them to sleep. Children get plenty of fresh air and exercise as they spend lots of time outdoors. The childminder provides opportunities for children to learn about their community and the wider world. For example, they enjoy regular trips to local parks and play areas.

Outcomes for children are good

The childminder supports children in making good progress in their learning and development. She is quick to recognise and meet children's additional needs or gaps in their learning. This helps children develop the confidence, knowledge and skills they need in readiness for their next stage in learning, such as school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY439953
Local authority	Stockton on Tees
Inspection number	854041
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	11 June 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Norton. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and works with an assistant.

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