

Childminder Report

Inspection date

13 November 2015

Previous inspection date

1 February 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 are very happy, confident and settled with the competent, caring childminder. She has successfully created a family atmosphere where children are learning to respect and celebrate each other's differences. This has a positive effect on children's emotional well-being and they feel secure in her care.
- The childminder is a good role model for the children. She offers guidance and reassurance to children throughout their activities and daily routines. Children are aware of the expectations of the setting and respond positively by behaving very well.
- The childminder's teaching is consistently strong. She provides children with a good selection of activities which challenge children's learning and development. This helps them remain engaged and motivated in their play.
- Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder shares information about children's learning and development regularly.
- The childminder provides parents with questionnaires and uses the Ofsted self-evaluation form to evaluate the strength of her practice and to identify areas for improvement.
- An effective and well-established programme of professional development helps to improve the childminder's knowledge, understanding and practice.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, the childminder does not give children enough time to respond to questions to develop children's thinking and reasoning skills further.
- The childminder does not always find out detailed information from parents about children's development on entry to the setting.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities for children to develop their thinking and reasoning skills
- develop further ways to gather more detailed information to help parents share what they know their child can do on entry into the setting.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's house and in the outdoor area and talked with the children and the childminder.
- The inspector also took account of the views of parents from their written feedback to the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation and evidence of suitability of household members. She looked at 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

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder has a good understanding of statutory requirements. She uses this secure knowledge to observe, plan and monitor children's progress. The childminder reflects on her practice and has good systems in place to evaluate the quality of her provision. She has a good understanding of her strengths and areas for improvement. The well-qualified childminder regularly attends training, such as safeguarding and paediatric first aid. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder receives support from the local authority and has effective links with the local school. The childminder implements a good range of policies and procedures to promote children's health and safety. She completes thorough risk assessments and carries out daily checks of all areas and activities that are accessed by children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of the childminder's teaching is consistently good. The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn and uses assessment effectively to plan a wide range of exciting activities. Partnerships with parents are positive and they are involved in their child's learning. The childminder keeps them well informed about their child's progress. Progress summaries are shared with parents on a regular basis and the childminder provides them with ideas about ways in which they can support learning at home. The childminder uses effective strategies to support children's confidence with developing their language and communication skills. Children's speech is developing well and they talk happily as they play and investigate activities. The childminder knows the children well and provides activities that support and challenge their learning. Children have a variety of opportunities to develop their mathematical skills and they have access to a good range of resources and activities that encourages their interest in books and writing.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides children with a warm, homely and fun environment. The childminder is a good role model. She is polite and respectful to the children who are encouraged to use good manners. She offers constant support, guidance and reassurance to children. The childminder has high expectations and offers clear routines and boundaries. Children's behaviour is good. Children form strong attachments with the childminder because she is caring and sensitive. Children benefit from regular opportunities to play in the garden. In addition, children go on regular outings, which helps to promote their physical development well. Children's good health is effectively promoted. They are provided with healthy meals which they help to prepare. Children show very high levels of self-control and confidence during activities. The childminder promotes children's independence skills in everyday activities.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning from their starting points. They enjoy a wide range of stimulating activities and experiences which captures their interests. This helps children to develop the skills needed for their next stage in learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY432206
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	853285
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	3 - 15
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	1 February 2012
Telephone number	

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

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