

Childminder Report

Inspection date

12 February 2016

Previous inspection date

15 April 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The extremely knowledgeable and well-qualified childminder plans rich, imaginative play experiences for children, both indoors and outdoors. Children are highly motivated, eager to explore and maintain their focus during activities over a sustained period of time.
- The childminder has an excellent understanding of how children learn and develop. She uses every available opportunity to enhance children's language, social and physical skills through play-based activities. This helps to prepare children superbly for future learning.
- The childminder has developed excellent partnerships with parents and others involved in children's education and care. She uses a range of highly successful strategies to actively engage parents in promoting and extending their children's learning at home.
- The childminder is fully committed to her own personal and professional development. Self-evaluation is highly effective in identifying and addressing areas for improvement.
- Children are immensely well settled and confident within the setting because the childminder has a precise and sensitive understanding of their needs. They show a strong sense of security and enjoy warm, positive relationships with the childminder.
- The childminder puts children's safety and well-being at the centre of everything she does. Risk assessment is thorough and contributes strongly towards their safety and well-being, which are promoted to a very high standard.
- The childminder provides a very welcoming and stimulating learning environment. She ensures this accurately reflects children's needs and interests, and successfully promotes their growing independence and enthusiasm for learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance older children's understanding of mathematical names for solid 3D shapes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and evaluated these 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 children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of parents' views from the written documentation they had provided for the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's qualification and the suitability of all adults living in the home.

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder's knowledge and understanding of safeguarding, and her practices designed to keep children safe are excellent. The highly dedicated, inspirational childminder continues to provide the highest quality of care and learning experiences to children. She meticulously monitors the progress children make, to help her narrow any gaps in their learning. Excellent use is made of training, research and self-reflection to strengthen and enhance her provision. Since her last inspection, she has successfully completed an early years degree and gained Early Years Teacher status. She uses her knowledge and skills to continually improve her practice, and to maintain the exceptional standards of care and education she provides for children and their families.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children receive exceptional support from the childminder. She is highly skilled in teaching children to learn through play. The childminder has transformed her garden into a unique, outdoor learning space. Children thoroughly enjoy playing in the mud kitchen and taking part in sensory play as they scoop sand and sprigs of lavender into containers. The childminder skilfully teaches children how to use real tools safely. For example, she encourages them to use two hands and to persevere, in order to saw wood. The childminder uses various strategies, including sign language to help children to be enthusiastic, articulate speakers. Older children use a wide range of vocabulary to describe what they are doing, recall events and solve problems. The childminder gives children an excellent foundation in early literacy and mathematics. Children recognise their name, identify letters and sounds, and practise emerging writing skills. They confidently use numbers for counting and comparing, and they recognise complex shapes. The childminder has identified the potential to extend this to include 3D shapes. The childminder knows exactly how well children are progressing and which aspects of their development to focus on next. She regularly exchanges comprehensive information with parents about their children's abilities and learning priorities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder provides an environment where children flourish, both physically and emotionally. Children's behaviour is exemplary. The childminder is a superb role model and successfully encourages children to share, take turns and play together cooperatively. Older children often help the younger children with everyday tasks, and the childminder promptly acknowledges their efforts and achievements. The childminder conscientiously meets children's care, health and dietary needs. She provides plenty of opportunities to be physically active and expertly helps them to become increasingly independent in seeing to their personal care.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make outstanding progress in relation to their starting points. They are highly confident and very eager to learn. This contributes towards them being exceptionally well prepared for the next stage in their learning and their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	312651
Local authority	Middlesbrough
Inspection number	847646
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	15 April 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1984 and lives in the Marton area of Middlesbrough. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has an early years degree and holds Early Years Teacher status. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The childminder also provides overnight childcare.

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