

Childminder Report

Inspection date

11 April 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

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

- The childminder is a well qualified, experienced practitioner and the quality of her teaching is good. She uses her knowledge and skills of child development well to plan activities that provide challenge for children and promote their next steps in learning.
- The childminder reviews children's assessments well. This helps her to identify any possible gaps in their achievements and secure intervention, if required, to help address this.
- Children are welcomed into the childminder's friendly home environment, where their individual needs are met and where they make strong relationships with her and other minded children.
- Links with local schools and external agencies and services are good. The childminder recognises the importance of working in partnership with other professionals to maintain continuity in children's welfare, learning and development.
- Good hygiene is promoted within the childminder's home. Children confidently talk about the importance of activities, such as, washing their hands before eating and after playing outdoors.
- Daily opportunities are provided for children to be physically active. The childminder ensure they have access to her garden area and they make regular visits to local outdoor environments.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The learning environment does not fully support children to engage in all activities.
- The childminder has not yet fully explored further ways to enhance her programme of continuous professional development, to extend her teaching skills and knowledge to an even higher level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the learning environment and stimulate children's learning further
- extend the programme of professional development so it is focused more precisely on key areas of practice to improve teaching further.

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.

Inspector

Nicola Jones

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has good knowledge of signs and symptoms that may indicate possible abuse to children. She knows who to contact should she have any concerns about a child in her care. The childminder continually reflects on the service she provides for children. She identifies areas for further development, taking account of the views of parents and children. This helps to improve children's achievements over time. The childminder monitors the work of her assistant well. She ensures she attends mandatory training, such as paediatric first aid, and provides ongoing feedback regarding her teaching skills. This helps the assistant to improve the effectiveness of her role. Overall, the childminder maintains a good overview of the educational activities and experiences she offers to children. This ensures they reflect their interests and stage of development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Good use is made of routine activities, such as preparing for lunch, as learning experiences. The childminder encourages children to count the number of items of cutlery on the table and they enjoy investigating the seeds inside a tomato. This helps to support their mathematical skills and encourages their curiosity about things that grow. The childminder is skilled in helping children to develop their vocabulary. She shows younger children how to pronounce words by repeating what they say. Older children are introduced to words, for example, colander, when they show an interest in equipment used in the kitchen. Parents are kept well informed about the progress their children are making. The childminder talks to them on a regular basis and shares information with them, such as, children's learning journey files.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy the time they spend with the childminder. They are motivated to take part in activities, such as making their own sandwich at lunchtime. They show confidence in selecting their own ingredients for the filling. The childminder recognises the importance of maintaining continuity in children's emotional and physical well-being. She gathers high-quality information, such as children's medical needs and any allergies they may have, on entry from parents. Children behave well in the childminder's home. She has clear, age-related expectations which she helps children to become aware of. This ensures they know what behaviour is acceptable and where they can and cannot go within her home and garden area.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. Younger children develop early writing skills when they use chalks to make marks on the large board in the garden. Older children engage in imaginative role play and investigate what happens when they pour water through coloured tubes. Children develop the skills and knowledge they require in readiness for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY478636
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	977707
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 9
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 Burnhope, County Durham. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds Early Years Professional status and works alongside an assistant.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
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