

Childminder Report

Inspection date

23 May 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 accurately assesses what children know and can do to gain a good understanding of their skills and abilities. She closely monitors their progress to identify the next steps in their learning. This helps children to make good progress from their starting points.
- Children behave well. They understand the childminder's rules and routines and respond appropriately to these. The childminder teaches them about the importance of respect and tolerance which helps them to become caring members of society.
- Children are happy, content and enthusiastic individuals who show good levels of self-motivation during their play. They are keen to take on new challenges and relish the praise and encouragement the childminder gives to them.
- The childminder takes children out into the local community where they learn effectively about the world around them and gain a good awareness of others and keeping safe.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder keeps parents well informed about their children's learning and development. However, she does not always support parents to contribute their own information about children's ongoing learning.
- The childminder has not established highly effective ways to share information about children's development with all early years settings that children attend, to extend their learning further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- offer parents more opportunities to contribute their own information about children's ongoing learning
- strengthen partnership working with other settings to help provide stronger continuity in children's learning and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a range of activities and spoke to children.
- The inspector talked to the childminder about her practice at appropriate points throughout the inspection and completed a joint evaluation of an activity with her.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of the childminder.
- The inspector carried out a tour of the premises.

Inspector

Lindsey Pollock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has clear procedures to follow should she be concerned about the welfare of a child in her care. She keeps children safe from harm. Thorough risk assessments are conducted and children are closely supervised at all times. The childminder considers her professional development and attends training to extend her knowledge. She participates in childminding network meetings to keep up to date with changes to procedures and childcare initiatives. The childminder evaluates her provision by talking to parents and children. She welcomes their feedback and uses this to make ongoing improvements to her practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows children well and provides activities that appeal to their interests and individual learning needs. An example of this is when she provides creative activities involving dinosaurs, which she knows children enjoy. Children have great fun designing and creating a dinosaur habitat with sand, dough and leaves. The childminder talks about size and colour as they play and encourages children to follow their own ideas. The childminder takes every opportunity to raise children's understanding of number. She counts with children as they play and in everyday routines and tasks, such as snack time and climbing the stairs. She helps them to learn new words during activities and initiates discussion to develop their conversational skills. She uses skilful questioning and comprehensive instructions to develop older children's speaking and listening skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder is warm and caring. Children are happy and content and very much at home in her setting. They snuggle up close to the childminder and go to her for reassurance if needed. The childminder has a good understanding of each child's needs and has effective arrangements in place to support their well-being. Great care is taken to help children settle. For example, the childminder ensures children's favourite toys are out to welcome them when they arrive. The childminder promotes healthy lifestyles well. She discusses the importance of following good hygiene routines and talks about the significance of eating healthy foods. Children have many opportunities to be physically active. They enjoy plenty of walks, trips to the local park and going to feed the horses in a nearby field. They play with scooters and ride-on toys in the outdoor area and show impressive skills as they balance and control their bodies. The childminder supports children to be as independent as possible and encourages them to do things for themselves. They learn how to use the toilet by themselves and put on their own coat and shoes.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and development. The childminder prepares children well for the next stage in their learning and their move on to nursery and school. Children are becoming increasingly independent and they learn how to share and take turns. They are confident and self-assured and enjoy being with their peers.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY478558
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	979908
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2014 and lives in Spennymoor. She operates all year round from 7am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for family holidays and bank holidays.

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