

Childminder Report

Inspection date

31 May 2016

Previous inspection date

20 March 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 has good teaching skills and a secure understanding of the early years foundation stage. She provides stimulating activities and resources that capture children's interests.
- The childminder makes accurate assessments of children's learning. She uses her good knowledge of children, as well as observations, to help her identify and plan for their next steps in learning.
- The childminder is sensitive, caring and kind towards children. This helps them to build strong relationships and supports their emotional well-being effectively.
- The childminder is committed to improving her practice and involves parents and children in the review process. She values their input and uses their views to help her maintain continuous improvement.
- Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder involves parents in their children's learning and shares ideas about how to extend their learning at home. Parents are complimentary about the childminder and the service that she provides.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not recently accessed professional development opportunities to help develop her teaching skills to an even higher level.
- The childminder misses opportunities to encourage children to negotiate, solve problems and resolve their own conflicts.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- maximise professional development opportunities to help improve the already good teaching skills to an even higher level
- extend opportunities for children to learn to negotiate, solve problems and resolve their own conflicts.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed the areas in the home used for childminding.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from written statements.
- The inspector looked at all relevant documentation, such as children's records, policies and procedures and evidence of the suitability of those living on the premises.

Inspector

Melanie Vincent

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has completed recent safeguarding training to ensure she is informed of changes to legislation and procedures. She knows what to do should she have concerns about a child's well-being. Rigorous ongoing risk assessment takes place to help maintain the safety of children at all times. The childminder continually reviews the activities and experiences she offers children to ensure that they reflect their interests and stage of development. The tracking of children's progress is effective and is used to identify any gaps in their learning. The childminder attends mandatory training, such as safeguarding and paediatric first aid. She holds a relevant early years qualification, which gives her a good understanding of how children learn and helps her to teach effectively.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses observations effectively to identify and successfully plan for the next steps in children's learning. There are clear systems in place to track children's progress. The childminder completes progress checks for children between the ages of two and three years and shares these with parents. Children are provided with uninterrupted time to play and investigate and are engaged in their learning. They contently play alongside one another and communicate their ideas and suggestions. The childminder asks children questions and makes comments that prompt them to work out mathematical problems. Children count, measure and compare objects during their play. They explore and experiment with creative materials and are keen to show, and are clearly proud of, the models they have created. The childminder adapts activities to ensure that children are continuously challenged and interested.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a wide range of resources that stimulates children's curiosity and motivates them to play and learn. Children play happily in a homely environment and are confident to make choices and decisions. The childminder has developed positive relationships with local schools and other early years settings to share information about children's progress and well-being. Children enjoy a variety of healthy meals and snacks. They have plenty of opportunities for outdoor play, helping to promote their good health and physical skills. The childminder is a good role model and provides clear guidance about her expectations of behaviour. She praises children for their efforts and they generally show an understanding of what is expected of them.

Outcomes for children are good

Children have regular opportunities to attend local groups. They develop good levels of confidence and self-esteem as they socialise with other children and adults. Children are keen and motivated learners and enjoy their learning, displaying interest, curiosity and enthusiasm. Their independence skills are developing well. All children make good progress in their learning from their starting points. They are developing the key skills and attitudes needed for the next stage of their learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	405440
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	1043800
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	20 March 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1998 and lives in New Hartley, Northumberland. She operates all year round from 7.30am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, except family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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