

Childminder Report

Inspection date

15 April 2016

Previous inspection date

12 October 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 provides good quality teaching. She is an experienced and highly qualified practitioner who promotes children's learning well. She follows their interests, plans effectively for their needs and ensures a good level of challenge in the activities provided.
- The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn. She observes them as they play, assesses their learning and plans for the next steps in their development. Children make good progress in relation to their starting points.
- The childminder is knowledgeable about children's individual care routines, behaviour and well-being. She is alert to changes in their behaviour, swiftly responds to them, addresses any concerns sensitively and ensures they continue to feel emotionally secure and safe.
- Partnerships with parents are well established. The childminder talks with parents regularly about children's general well-being and achievements. She offers support to parents to help with their children's learning in the home and in the setting.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not fully empower children to choose resources without seeking adult help. This means that children are sometimes limited in exercising personal choice, making decisions or fully developing their play independently.
- The childminder does not maximise the use of the evaluation and monitoring systems in place to help set clear priorities and identify more-challenging improvement targets.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make it easier for children to choose the resources they want to further support their independence and decision making skills
- strengthen the focus of evaluation and monitoring to help develop clearer priorities and set more-challenging targets that support continuous improvement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors 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 looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation and suitability documents for her family.
- The inspector read the statements provide by the parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Carys Millican

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder has high expectations of the children in her care. She provides a broad range of activities that meets children's interests well. The childminder is very effective in identifying early years training opportunities, which help to keep her knowledge, and skills up to date. She observes children's learning and plans experiences which help ensure that children make good progress. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder is knowledgeable about the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect and knows who to contact should she have concerns about a child's welfare. She undertakes regular checks of the environment and acts quickly to minimise the risk of harm to children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder plans activities around children's interests. She allows time for children to try things out and responds to their requests in a timely manner. The childminder promotes children's language skills particularly effectively. She introduces positional language during children's play with trains. They learn that trains can travel under, over and through the tunnels they add as they build the track. The childminder asks children appropriate questions and listens attentively to their responses. Children count confidently and name the different colours of the trains they play with. The childminder gives lots of encouragement, which motivates children in their learning. They enjoy weighing, mixing, and rolling out the pastry mix while making tarts and enjoy reading books whilst sitting comfortably beside the childminder.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Parents are kept well informed about all aspects of the service the childminder provides. During the settling-in periods they share information so they can work together to ensure children's needs are met. Parents comment that they are extremely happy with the service they receive. The childminder supports children's health and well-being effectively. She provides nutritious snacks and prepares lunches provided by the parents. Children learn basic hygiene practices and learn to be independent in their self-care. The childminder is a good role model and manages children's behaviour positively. She provides opportunities for children to attend a range of community play settings where they mix with others and build on their physical skills. Partnerships with the other settings children attend are established to ensure continuity in their learning.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are working securely within the range of development typical for their age. They develop close relationships and are learning how to share and cooperate with others. Children learn about numbers and practise early writing skills with confidence. This helps them to develop key skills for the future, including when they start school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	403115
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	847905
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	12 October 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1998 and lives in Morpeth, Northumberland. She operates term time only from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 6.

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