

Childminder Report

Inspection date

26 August 2016

Previous inspection date

16 January 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 successfully addressed the actions and recommendation raised at the last inspection. For example, she now makes better use of her observations to plan challenging activities for children based on their individual next steps in learning.
- Teaching is good. The childminder interacts well with children and effectively supports their communication and language development. She continually talks to children, asks relevant questions and links their learning to real-life experiences.
- Children are confident and independent learners. They thoroughly enjoy being creative and actively use their imagination. This helps to foster children's expressive art and design skills.
- The childminder has a secure understanding of how to promote healthy lifestyles. Children have daily opportunities to develop their physical skills and engage in active play.
- Children's behaviour is good. The childminder ensures children understand the boundaries and know what is expected of them. She provides children with consistent praise and encouragement to enhance their confidence and self-assurance.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not focused the programme of continuous professional development sharply enough to help extend her skills and knowledge.
- The childminder does not always gather as much detailed information as she can from parents about their children's achievements and capabilities when they first start.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the programme of professional development so that it is sharply focused on key areas of practice in order to strengthen the quality of teaching even further
- obtain more thorough information from parents about their children's abilities on entry to the setting.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas accessed by children.
- The inspector observed play and learning opportunities for children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at and discussed a range of records, policies and procedures with the childminder, including evidence of qualifications and the suitability of all adults living in the household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written testimonials obtained by the childminder.

Inspector

Rachel Enright

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder is passionate about her role and responsibilities. She is able to identify her current strengths and areas for development. The childminder strives for continuous improvement to enhance future learning opportunities for children. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good understanding of how to protect children from harm and knows the procedures to follow if she has any concerns. The premises are safe and secure for children. The childminder completes daily health and safety checks to enable her to recognise and eliminate any potential hazards in the environment.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children's personal, social and emotional development is successfully promoted. The childminder makes good use of community activities, including toddler groups and messy play sessions. These opportunities enable children to mix and interact with others. The childminder responds to children's individual interests well. She regularly monitors their ongoing progress to enable her to quickly identify and address any gaps in their development. In addition, she is fully aware of her responsibility to complete the progress check for children between the ages of two and three years. Overall, partnerships with parents are positive and they are very happy with the service they receive. The childminder provides parents with suggestions to help them continue their children's learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder creates a fun, homely and nurturing environment where children are happy and settled. This helps to foster their emotional well-being. Children form secure attachments and develop strong relationships with the childminder and her family. At the current time, the childminder does not care for children who attend other early years settings. Nevertheless, she fully understands the importance of establishing good relationships with local primary schools. The childminder discusses sharing information with teachers to support children's future moves and to enable her to complement their learning and development.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress and gain the necessary skills needed for the next stage in their learning, including school. They show high levels of concentration, determination and motivation throughout their learning. For example, children persevere well when they find it difficult to work some of the tools and equipment as they use the play dough. Children develop a good understanding of simple mathematical concepts. They learn about colour, size and shape during everyday activities and demonstrate their understanding of these, for example, when completing a selection of jigsaw puzzles. Children learn to identify and recognise the letters in their name, which helps to promote their literacy development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	403144
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	1043711
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	16 January 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1997 and lives in Blyth, Northumberland. She operates all year round, from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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