

Childminder Report

Inspection date

5 October 2016

Previous inspection date

18 December 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 effectively reflects on her provision to help her identify areas for improvement and to maintain her good practice. Since the last inspection, she has attended a range of training. This has helped her to identify and support children's individual learning styles.
- The childminder provides high-quality teaching. Her childcare qualification provides a solid foundation for understanding how best to support and challenge children as they play. She uses a variety of teaching techniques and children make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder is warm and sensitive towards the children. She knows them very well and is attentive to their needs. Children settle in smoothly and quickly develop secure attachments, promoting their emotional well-being effectively.
- The childminder works very closely with the other early years settings the children attend. This creates an effective collaborative approach to their learning and care.
- The childminder is well organised and has in place a wide range of policies, procedures and other documentation to underpin her strong practice. She keeps well informed of all legislative changes and is alert to how these impact on her setting.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Opportunities for children to further develop their good understanding of mathematics are, sometimes, not supported as well as possible.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children that help them explore numbers during their everyday play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder and assessed the accuracy of her evaluation.
- The inspector viewed children's records, planning documentation and a range of other documentation, including policies, procedures, self-evaluation tools and evidence of the suitability of all adults living in the household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from questionnaires and other comments.

Inspector

Katie Sparrow

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder is clear about her role in safeguarding children and has a firm understanding of all child protection matters. She has a comprehensive safeguarding policy in place which underpins her good practice. The environment is safe and secure and subject to regular risk assessment. The childminder works closely with parents from the very beginning and successfully creates a shared approach to meeting children's needs. Parents contribute to children's assessments and ongoing development and the childminder shares information regarding progress and next steps. The childminder regularly monitors children's progress. This helps her to identify any gaps in their development and provide additional support where necessary.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder carries out ongoing observations of children as they play. She uses this information well to identify their next steps in learning. Together with information from parents, she plans interesting activities to support all children's good progress. For example, she presents various activities based on the children's recent trip to the zoo. They enjoy reading books about animals and then explore the range of role play animals, discussing those they recognise and have seen before. Younger children thoroughly enjoy the sensory experience of handprinting. For example, they explore making marks as they pat the paper using their hands, developing good physical and early literacy skills. The childminder draws their attention to the handprints and uses a good narrative to help support their emerging communication skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and content in the childminder's welcoming home. They behave extremely well and cooperate when given instructions from the childminder. For example, they happily help to tidy away toys before snack. Children regularly mix with other children and develop good social skills. For example, frequent trips to toddler groups provide opportunities for children to develop friendships and put into practice their understanding of sharing and turn taking. Children learn safe behaviours and the importance of healthy lifestyles as the childminder skilfully embeds these into everyday practice. For example, children brush their teeth as part of the daily routine. Children thoroughly enjoy using their own risk assessment skills. For example, the childminder provides crates for them to explore ways to climb and navigate over safely.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They are keen and motivated learners who join in enthusiastically with activities and conversations. Children become confident to do things for themselves and develop a good level of independence. The childminder offers a good narrative and acknowledges emerging communication from younger children. Children learn to share, take turns and develop tolerance and respect for others. These help support them in developing skills for future learning and in readiness for the move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	317275
Local authority	Cumbria
Inspection number	1064064
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	18 December 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1996 and lives in Cockermouth, Cumbria. She operates all year round from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
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