

Childminder Report

Inspection date

2 November 2016

Previous inspection date

16 October 2012

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 is very experienced. She works hard to create a happy, stimulating and inviting environment. Her interactions support children's play effectively. She helps every child to gain a solid foundation for their future learning.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Positive written feedback demonstrates parents' high regard for the childminder and the service she provides.
- The childminder accurately tracks and monitors children's progress. She uses her observations effectively to plan what children need to learn next.
- The childminder listens very carefully to what children say and do. She models language really well and encourages children to learn new words. This promotes their communication and language skills successfully.
- Children form good relationships with the childminder. Her home is safe, warm and welcoming. Children are confident and settle easily into her care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not gather enough information about children's skills on entry, to help her plan precisely for their learning from the outset.
- The childminder does not make the most of all opportunities to further enhance her professional development, to enrich her knowledge and raise her practice to the highest level.
- Self-evaluation does not yet show precise targets for further development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gather more information about what children know and can do when they first attend and use this to plan precisely for them from the start
- explore ways to engage in professional development opportunities and secure up-to-date knowledge relating to changes that affect childcare practice
- enhance self-evaluation procedures further to identify more precise areas for development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and evaluated these jointly with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's records, observation and assessment files and a selection of policies.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of parents' views from the written documentation they had provided for the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's qualifications and the suitability of all adults living in the home.

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has completed child protection training and understands the possible signs of abuse or neglect and how to respond to these promptly. Risk assessments are made of the environment and for any outings and action is taken by the childminder to minimise all hazards. The childminder completes assessments of children's progress. She identifies quickly if there are any gaps in their learning and puts measures in place to support children effectively. The childminder works closely with a network of childminders. She gains ideas and shares good practice with them, which generally helps her to reflect on and to evaluate the quality of her provision.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides a welcoming and homely environment with plenty of resources that are carefully selected to follow children's emerging interests and challenge their abilities. Children's communication and language skills are promoted very well. The childminder extends their vocabulary by introducing new words as they play. She values young children's efforts when using new words, as she repeats their attempts and praises them for their newly acquired skills. The childminder promotes early mathematical skills for children. For example, she introduces counting as children post discs into the shape sorter. The childminder encourages children to recognise and name the colours of toys. Children show their strong curiosity, they turn pages in a book and press buttons on interactive toys.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children form strong bonds with the childminder and demonstrate by their behaviour that they feel emotionally secure in her care. They often sit on her lap and enjoy a cuddle when they need it. The childminder works closely with parents to identify children's individual care needs. This helps her to organise daily routines that match those at home. The childminder is a positive role model and teaches children to share, take turns and use good manners. She effectively promotes healthy lifestyles. For example, children have regular opportunities for fresh air and physical exercise. Snacks offered to children are nutritious and healthy. Children have regular opportunities to mix with other children and adults at local groups and parks. This helps to develop their physical and independence skills, and boosts their confidence.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress. Toddlers are well motivated and confidently make decisions in their play. They choose from a good selection of toys and equipment. Children are developing their awareness of counting and show a keen interest in books. They learn how to handle them appropriately. Children are well prepared for the next stage in learning at nursery, and eventually school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	311638
Local authority	Gateshead
Inspection number	1059537
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 5
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	16 October 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1995 and lives in Whickham, Gateshead. The childminder operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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