

Childminder Report

Inspection date	16 November 2016
Previous inspection date	23 January 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 is passionate about her role and children are cared for in a home-from-home environment where they feel like part of the family.
- Children settle quickly and the childminder has flexible settling-in arrangements which are tailored to the needs of the child. High-quality information about children's learning and care needs is gathered from parents.
- There is a well-organised environment indoors which promotes children's independence effectively.
- The childminder plans a range of stimulating activities to engage and motivate children. She uses her knowledge and skills to, overall promote children's learning in all areas of their development. Children make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder uses her assessments of children effectively to plan activities to support what they need to learn next.
- The childminder has a very good relationship with parents. They are well informed about what their children are doing and where they are in their learning.
- The childminder works effectively with local schools. They share information regularly, in order to support children's learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder sometimes misses opportunities to enhance older children's literacy skills.
- Although, overall children make good progress in their communication development, the childminder does not fully build upon all opportunities to help extend younger children's vocabulary.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities that extend older children's literacy skills even further
- build on existing opportunities for younger children to use and understand words that extend their growing vocabulary.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all parts of the childminder's home used for childminding.
- The inspector observed children's play and learning.
- The inspector looked at policies, procedures and documents the childminder uses when caring for children.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of all persons living in the household and talked with the childminder about her self-evaluation and improvement plans.
- The inspector took into account written feedback from parents.

Inspector

Elizabeth Fish

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder and her assistants keep updated with the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures. They ensure information, such as contact numbers are correct. The childminder monitors children's learning. The childminder continually reviews and adapts her provision to ensure she covers the seven areas of learning effectively. She takes prompt action when areas for further development are identified. The childminder has suitable procedures in place for the supervision of her assistants and actively supports them to further their own qualifications. The childminder is committed to her own professional development and is currently working towards an early years qualification at level 5. The childminder evaluates her practice effectively and generally knows where she needs to improve.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder, overall plans stimulating activities that are based on children's favourite stories. Children enjoy listening to the stories and they talk about the characters. They then use masks to recreate some of the main events. Good support by the childminder helps children to remember some of the story settings. She thinks carefully about how she can extend the activity and builds on this when children go out into the garden. The childminder plays alongside the children and they laugh together as they take on different roles in the story. Communication and language is, generally, supported well, particularly with older children. She talks to the children as they create patterns with construction pieces. She comments on what they are doing, helping to extend their language.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are very happy in the childminder's home. Children clearly have a good relationship with the childminder and her assistants. They talk about their day and recall things they have done together. The childminder and her assistants know children well. They recognise when children are tired and intervene with cuddles and stories, providing additional support and reassurance. They support children's emotional well-being effectively. Children behave well in the setting. The childminder and her assistants have clear behavioural expectations and children respond well to gentle reminders about these. Children enjoy being outside. They enjoy playing in the house and the outdoor kitchen. They also have space to run and climb, supporting their physical development.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. They are developing a range of skills and knowledge in preparation for school. They learn to concentrate until they have completed a task. Children are given the time to develop their own ideas. They try things out and begin to find solutions or different ways of doing things. Children count confidently and talk about colours as they play. They learn how to hold pencils effectively to make marks on paper. Children listen with growing attention to stories. They develop effective relationships with other children and share and take turns.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY449919
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	1066070
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 9
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	13
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	23 January 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2012 and lives in Blyth, Northumberland. She works with two assistants. The childminder operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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