

Childminder Report

Inspection date

1 December 2016

Previous inspection date

16 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

- Very good provision is made for outdoor play and exploration. The childminder uses woodland and nature areas to help children to develop a positive attitude towards learning in the outdoors. Children have many opportunities to learn about and experience the natural world around them.
- Effective systems are in place to ensure all the necessary information about children's care needs is obtained from parents prior to the start of the placement. This enables the childminder to settle and comfort children quickly.
- Children make good progress in their learning and engage in purposeful play. The childminder provides exciting and stimulating activities in a welcoming environment. This helps to motivate children to become keen learners.
- Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder and parents share information about children's learning routinely and discuss how they can work together to promote this. Feedback from parents demonstrates that they are very happy with the care and education offered to their children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not considered how she can develop further the good systems for assessing children's progress to enable more rapid progress across all areas of learning.
- The childminder has not explored how she can further promote children's sensory exploration.
- The childminder has not fully developed partnership working with all settings that children attend to enable a shared approach to their learning and development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make even better use of assessments to promote children's rapid progress and achievement in all aspects of their learning
- provide more opportunities for children to further promote their sensory development
- strengthen further the arrangements for sharing information and partnership working with all settings that children attend.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of household members.
- The inspector looked at written feedback from parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector viewed all parts of the childminder's home used for childminding.

Inspector

Lindsey Pollock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good understanding of how to keep children safe. She is aware of the signs and indicators that a child may be at risk and is confident in the procedures to follow should she have concerns. Risk assessments of her house and any outings are undertaken to identify and minimise potential dangers. The childminder ensures that her assistant understands her policies and monitors and supports her work. She reflects well on her practice, seeking feedback from parents and children to help her improve her service. This helps her to meet the needs of children and families. She attends training to keep herself up to date with changes to legislation and childcare practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of teaching is good. The childminder knows children well. She observes children and plans for what they need to learn next, adapting and differentiating well to meet everyone's needs. For example, she provides different resources so that the youngest children can join in the fun. Children are helped to become skilful communicators. The childminder asks them questions to engage their thought processes and develop their understanding and vocabulary. Care is taken to ensure children have a balance of activities. The childminder recognises when it is appropriate to let children lead their own play and choose ways to do things. She sits nearby, ready to offer support and help children to extend their ideas if needed.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a welcoming environment for children and they demonstrate they feel safe and secure. She teaches children to be kind, polite and considerate to others. For example, she reminds them to share and take turns when playing. Children are given plenty of praise and encouragement to increase their self-esteem. They are given clear guidance on what is right and wrong and know what is expected of them. The childminder helps children to adopt healthy lifestyles and begin to understand why these are important. For example, children know that they need to wash their hands to prevent germs and they recognise some foods that are good for them.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are enthusiastic learners who are well prepared for the next stages in their learning and the eventual move on to school. They are becoming increasingly independent and confident. For example, as they get older, they manage toileting by themselves and express their thoughts and opinions. They enjoy being part of a group and are learning to manage their feelings and behaviour. Their listening, attention and understanding are developing well. They demonstrate this as they pretend to be sleeping bunnies during a music and movement activity. They listen carefully as the childminder sings to them. They concentrate and wait excitedly for the time to come for them to wake up and hop around the room. Children develop their mathematical skills well. They use mathematical language with increasing understanding and confidence as they play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY321498
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1064838
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	9
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	16 December 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2006 and lives in Consett, County Durham. The childminder operates all year round from 6am to 7pm, Monday to Friday. She occasionally works with an assistant.

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