

Childminder Report

Inspection date	5 December 2016
Previous inspection date	11 April 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 has established a professional and organised approach to her work. She includes her co-minder in the self-evaluation process. Together they identify their strengths and areas to work on for the future development of their childcare service.
- The childminder is passionate about her work and keeps her practice up to date with changes in safeguarding legislation and early years issues. She shares this information with her co-minder. A detailed range of policies and procedures underpins the childminder's good practice.
- Children are happy and contented and settle easily into the calm and welcoming environment. The childminder and her co-minder provide a caring atmosphere. They work closely together to support children's emotional well-being so children feel safe and secure.
- The quality of teaching is good. The childminder is experienced and knowledgeable about how children learn. She appreciates the value of allowing children to take the lead in their play. She provides experiences that meet children's interests and help to extend their learning and skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not gather in-depth information from parents when children first start about their abilities on entry.
- The tracking system is not yet thoroughly embedded throughout practice to establish even more highly effective monitoring of children's progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance methods to find out from parents what children already know and can do when they start at the setting
- make more consistent use of the tracking system throughout practice and establish even more highly effective monitoring of the progress being made by children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed the areas in the home used for childminding.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector held a meeting with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the setting's self-evaluation, children's records, policies and procedures and evidence of the suitability of those living or working on the premises.
- The inspector read the statements provided by the parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Carys Millican

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder and her co-minder know what to do if they have concerns about children in their care. They demonstrate a good understanding of local safeguarding board procedures. Children are supervised at all times, indoors and outside. Robust risk assessment and regular safety checks help to minimise any potential hazards to children, both in the home and when on outings. The childminder organises the spaces she uses for childminding well. The play areas are tidy and equipment is stored in accessible and well labelled, low-level units. This enables children to play and explore their surroundings safely. Parent's feedback is complimentary. They say their children are enjoying their time with both childminders and that they are progressing well.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder and her co-minder provide a stimulating and interesting environment. This helps to support and extend children's learning. The childminder encourages children to talk about their experiences and introduces them to new words. Children listen attentively to others and are keen to contribute to the conversation. They are eager to use the range of small-world toys that helps promote their imagination and creativity. Children enjoy playing with dinosaur toys which roar and move. They build towers using bricks. The childminder counts with them and helps them to learn colours. Children develop an interest in art and craft activities. They learn to use glue sticks and colour in seasonal pictures. Overall, children are closely observed as they play and assessments are made to monitor their progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and contented. They are eager to join in planned activities and they enthusiastically play and explore their surroundings and equipment freely. The childminder is effective in modelling respectful relationships. She helps children to consider other people's feelings and helps them to share and take turns when using resources. Children's behaviour is good and the childminder intervenes skilfully when necessary. She provides a caring and nurturing environment where children settle-in quickly. The childminder provides healthy and nutritious snacks and meals for children. She makes sure they have fresh drinking water at all times. The childminder and co-minder use snack times to introduce simple messages about why fruit and water are healthy. This helps children to begin to understand the impact of a healthy lifestyle.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are meeting the typical development stages for their age. They enjoy a wide range of interesting and exciting activities that they are motivated and enthusiastic to take part in. Children are learning to make friends and have a good level of social skills. They are independent and make choices in everything that they do. Children are learning skills that help to prepare them for the next stage in their learning and for future moves on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	317234
Local authority	Cumbria
Inspection number	1064062
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	15
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	11 April 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1996 and lives in Wigton, Cumbria. She works with her husband who is also a registered childminder. They operate all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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