

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 and co-minder provide a home-from-home environment where children thrive. They are very attentive towards the children and develop close and trusting relationships with them and their parents.
- The childminder is a good role model. He demonstrates good manners and reminds children about being kind and polite to one another. The childminder offers children lots of praise and encouragement. This helps to promote their good behaviour, emotional well-being, confidence and self-esteem.
- The quality of teaching is good. The childminder asks well-placed questions and activities are planned around children's interests. Children are encouraged to have a go with new experiences and take part in challenges that will help them to make progress.
- Children are enthusiastic and eager to play and learn. They make choices about what they want to do throughout the day. Their communication and language, physical and personal, social and emotional development are fostered well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although children have access to an excellent selection of resources, opportunities to explore and investigate more natural materials are not as widely promoted.
- There are few opportunities for children to learn about the similarities and differences between people and communities during activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the already excellent opportunities for children to experience a variety of materials in their play
- extend the range of opportunities for children to learn about the similarities and differences between people and communities that further extend their knowledge of the wider world.

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 progress 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 works closely with his co-minder and together they provide a professional service for the families who use them. The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of safeguarding children and knows what to do if he was concerned about a child's welfare. Together, they implement a robust safeguarding policy, which they follow and know in good detail. Children are kept safe and secure in the childminder's home. Risk assessments are maintained and safety checks ensure that any potential hazards are swiftly identified. For example, the safety gate is closed on stairs after placing a young child upstairs for a sleep. The childminder gathers a good range of information from parents to support continuity in children's care and learning. Self-evaluation is used well to help identify areas for improvements.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The experienced childminder, overall, offers children a range of learning experiences, which matches their interests and motivates them to learn. For example, children competently build tall towers using wooden and foam bricks. The childminder asks children questions to help with their counting skills and colour recognition before they take great pleasure in knocking them down. Children are happy and contented. They ask to sit on the childminder's knee to look at the pictures in the books as he reads to them. Children's communication and language are supported well. The childminder talks to children as they play, reinforcing and repeating new words to help build up their vocabulary. Children's progress is monitored to ensure they make good progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's self-esteem and confidence are effectively promoted through lots of praise and encouragement. The childminder helps children to consider the impact of their behaviour on others and to consider their feelings. Children are very well mannered and they learn to look after the well-organised resources that are available to them. Children's health is promoted well. They are provided with healthy snacks and home-cooked meals. Children learn basic hygiene practices. They learn to wash and dry their hands after attending to their toileting needs and before eating. Children go for regular walks to the local parks and playgrounds close by. This helps their physical development and, generally, builds on their knowledge about the local community. The childminder talks to children about changes in their lives, for example, the birth of a baby and their future move on to nursery.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are developing the skills they need to start nursery. Older children's independence is supported, for example, they collect their water bottles and transport them into the kitchen for snack time. Children learn how to hold a pencil and begin to recognise their names. Younger children concentrate well and complete their Christmas Santa pictures from start to finish. They listen attentively and follow instructions. Children have good social skills and are learning to mix with others at local groups.

Setting details

Unique reference number	404597
Local authority	Cumbria
Inspection number	1064159
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 2001 and lives in Wigton, Cumbria. He works with his wife 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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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
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