

Childminder Report

Inspection date

13 December 2016

Previous inspection date

3 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 makes accurate observations of children in their play and monitors their development closely. She uses this information well to plan stimulating experiences and activities which support their good progress.
- The childminder works well with teachers from the local nurseries and schools. She finds out what the children have been learning during the day and considers this when planning activities. This helps her to provide good continuity of learning.
- Children build good relationships with their peers and learn to play cooperatively. The childminder helps them to learn how to share and take turns well.
- The childminder is caring and attentive and develops close bonds and attachments with the children in her care. Parents say that their children enjoy being with her and are keen to attend.
- The childminder maintains high standards of safety and cleanliness throughout childcare areas to promote and safeguard children's welfare. She successfully teaches children about the importance of following good hygiene routines.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not gather in-depth information from parents about what children can already do and know when they first start.
- The current arrangements for professional development do not fully provide opportunities for the childminder to consider how to raise teaching to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gather more comprehensive information from parents about children's achievements and skills on entry
- extend the current arrangements for professional development that provide more opportunities to raise the quality of teaching even higher.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a range of activities and spoke to the children.
- The inspector talked to the childminder about her practice at appropriate points throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including the self-evaluation form and saw evidence of the suitability of people living and working on the premises.
- The inspector spoke to a parent and looked at written feedback from other parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.

Inspector

Lindsey Pollock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has an up-to-date knowledge of changes to child protection procedures. She understands the referral processes should she have concerns for a child's welfare. She reduces potential dangers by conducting thorough risk assessments of her home and when taking children on outings. The childminder monitors and evaluates her practice and the quality of her childcare provision. She speaks to parents and children and welcomes feedback and guidance from the local authority advisor. When an assistant is present, the childminder fully supports their work and monitors their practice. She ensures they are kept informed of changes to legislation and procedures.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has high expectations for children's learning and development. A strong focus is placed on developing children's skills and abilities to prepare them for school. Activities interest and motivate children. For example, the childminder recognises that some children particularly enjoy sensory play. She provides lots of different media and materials, such as foam, paint and dough, for them to explore. Care is taken to ensure all children, including those children who speak English as an additional language, are fully involved. When needed, the childminder provides one-to-one support and explains things clearly and slowly. This means everyone can join in the fun and learn something new.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well. The childminder praises them when they help others and remember their good manners. This teaches children how to conduct themselves towards others and raises their self-esteem. Children's healthy lifestyles are promoted well. They enjoy a range of nutritious and healthy meals and snacks and learn about which foods are good for them. Many activities are provided in the outdoors, helping children develop physically and benefit from the fresh air. The childminder teaches children how to keep themselves safe. She talks to them about road safety when on outings and explains how to use tools safely as they play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for the next stage of their learning, such as nursery and school. They are becoming independent learners who make choices and confidently follow their own ideas. During a craft activity they decide which colour dough they want to use and what they want to make. They develop good small-muscle skills to help their early writing and they carefully manipulate tools to cut stars and snowmen. They are becoming skilful communicators and converse well. Children who speak English as an additional language are becoming more confident at expressing their needs and have an increasing vocabulary. All children enjoy stories and know when it is appropriate to sit quietly and listen.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY442875
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1060014
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	11
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	3 October 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2012 and lives in Tow Law. She operates Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm, all year round, except for family holidays. She holds a childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder occasionally works with an assistant.

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