

Childminder Report

Inspection date

4 January 2017

Previous inspection date

10 December 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 provides a wide range of activities, which helps children to make good progress in their learning and development. Children demonstrate good attitudes towards learning, and are enthusiastic and motivated in their play.
- Children frequently interact with others and explore different places. They have lots of opportunities to find out about the community in which they live during local walks and visits to groups.
- Thorough risk assessments are carried out to ensure the premises are safe. The childminder remains vigilant at all times to keep children safe.
- 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.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not considered how she can further develop the good systems for assessing children's progress to enable more rapid progress across all areas of learning.
- The current arrangements for professional development do not fully provide opportunities for the childminder to consider how to raise teaching to the highest level.
- The childminder does not always make the most of her good partnerships with parents to encourage them to participate fully in the evaluation of the setting.

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
- build on the current arrangements for professional development, so that these focus more specifically on developing an expert knowledge of teaching and learning
- strengthen the strategies used to engage parents in the evaluation of the setting.

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 discussed self-evaluation and looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of the childminder.
- The inspector carried out a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.

Inspector

Lindsey Pollock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good understanding of the possible signs and symptoms that indicate a child may be at risk of abuse. She knows the reporting procedures she must follow in the event of any child protection concerns that she may have about a child. The childminder welcomes advice from local authority representatives to help her to continually improve the provision. She has a childcare qualification and uses her training and experience to provide good quality care for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder, overall, meets the children's individual learning and development needs effectively. Activities are planned with children's interests and identified learning needs in mind. The childminder is also confident enough to follow children's lead as they play and quickly adapts activities to maintain their interest. For example, when children decide they want to write their name during a sensory play activity, she encourages them in this. Much emphasis is placed on developing children's communication and language skills. The childminder introduces new vocabulary and interacts well with the children. She gives children time to think about and respond to questions and correctly models language. Daily conversations with parents ensure a good two-way exchange of information about children's learning. The childminder values parental input and uses this to inform her activity planning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides children with a lot of praise and encouragement, which nurtures their confidence and self-esteem. The environment is relaxed and welcoming. Children are happy in the childminder's care and new children settle well. They learn about the importance of a healthy lifestyle. Daily opportunities are made for children to enjoy fresh air and exercise, supporting their physical well-being. Home-cooked meals are provided for them which include a selection of vegetables and fruit. Children behave well and build good relationships with their peers. The childminder supports them to learn to respect and be kind to each other.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for nursery and school. They listen attentively when the childminder speaks to them, concentrate well and persist in their endeavours. For example, during a game of skittles in the garden, they follow the childminder's instructions and show good determination to complete the game successfully. They learn how to manage their personal needs, such as washing their hands after using the toilet. Although children are still very young, they are becoming interested in letter sounds and enjoy attempting to write their name. Children enthusiastically take on small tasks, such as helping to sweep up after messy play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY424110
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1059900
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	10 December 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in West Auckland, County Durham. She operates Monday to Friday from 8am to 5.30pm all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3.

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