

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 February 2017

Previous inspection date

28 January 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder shows an outstanding dedication to her provision and a passion that is equally shared with her co-childminder and assistants. The childminder regularly carries out formal observations of the practice of the assistants, raising the quality of teaching to the highest standards. There is a strong drive for continual improvement and self-evaluation is highly effective.
- The quality of teaching is outstanding. The childminder uses her expert knowledge of how children learn to support, challenge and facilitate learning through high-quality interaction. Children make rapid progress.
- Children's emotional and physical well-being are at the heart of the childminder's setting. Children form exceptionally strong attachments with the childminder and enjoy equally warm relationships with all practitioners. This greatly accelerates children's confidence to explore and their motivation to learn.
- Children develop a very strong sense of themselves and their place in the world. They explore where they live in the context of the wider world and discover a wide range of cultural traditions.
- Children's progress is subject to close scrutiny. Assessments of children's progress are performed very regularly, allowing the childminder to very swiftly identify where children are slower to develop key skills. Systems of support are implemented where necessary.
- The childminder is highly proactive in seeking out new information and keeping herself up to date with current practice. She attends training and conducts research on a wide range of early years topics. She uses her skills, knowledge and understanding to promote children's learning exceptionally well.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the already excellent opportunities parents have to be involved in their children's assessments and seek even more detailed information about what children can already do upon starting.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder and assessed the accuracy of her evaluation.
- The inspector viewed children's records, planning documentation and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures. She also discussed self-evaluation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from comments and reviews left for the childminder.

Inspector

Katie Sparrow

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder works closely with her co-childminder and assistants in actively promoting children's welfare. Children are listened to and show they feel safe in the care of the childminder. Procedures for reporting any concerns are particularly well embedded and fully understood. The environment is subject to regular and robust risk assessment, helping to ensure children can explore safely. Parents are provided with a wealth of information and kept extremely well informed of their children's progress. The childminder greatly supports parents in continuing children's learning at home. The childminder is currently working on ways to seek even more information from parents when children first start, in order to create even more accurate starting points. All those involved in the care and development of the children are consulted about how to use available funding. The childminder closely monitors the impact of how funding has been spent to ensure it is well targeted.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder completes accurate assessments of children's learning based on regular, high-quality observations. This information is used to identify next steps for planning to ensure that children continue to maintain the excellent rate of progress. The childminder is highly effective, differentiating her teaching and questioning to support children. She provides closer interaction for the younger children, modelling ways to stack cups and setting appropriate challenge as she asks why certain cups might not fit in. Older children enjoy a story about dinosaurs. The childminder encourages the children to recall their favourite parts. They excitedly talk about the story and how the volcano erupted, demonstrating their excellent vocabulary. The childminder works closely with other professionals involved in the children's development and effectively threads information into planning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children thrive in the highly stimulating and extremely positive environment. They are listened to and valued as individuals. The childminder is an excellent role model. For example, she continually promotes excellent manners, sharing and mutual respect. Children are cooperative and show care and respect for others. Children have a very good understanding of how to keep themselves safe and demonstrate excellent risk assessment skills. For example, they navigate over different surfaces in the garden, jumping off and in between large tyres. The childminder promotes high standards of hygiene and healthy lifestyles extremely well. Children enjoy healthy snacks and activities around healthy eating.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children, including those in receipt of funding, make consistently high rates of progress. Children are eager to join in with the exciting and novel activities and become absorbed in their learning. Children are widely independent and much care is taken to ensure children are able to complete tasks by themselves. Children are exceptionally well prepared for the next stage of their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY466865
Local authority	Cumbria
Inspection number	1083654
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	29
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	28 January 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2013 and lives in Carlisle, Cumbria. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with two assistants and alongside a co-childminder.

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