

Childminder Report

Inspection date

22 February 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 is confident and skilled in enhancing children's self-chosen play. Children explore the well-prepared environment enthusiastically and make good progress in all areas of learning.
- Children have secure bonds with the childminder and her assistant. They are very good role models and manage behaviour consistently and positively. Children are well mannered and are beginning to show respect for themselves and each other.
- The childminder has very high standards of cleanliness and hygiene. She actively promotes children's good health and teaches them how to manage their own personal needs. Children learn about healthy lifestyles and develop independence.
- The childminder helps children to develop an awareness of their own safety through carefully planned outings. Young children learn how to cross the road and begin to recognise hazards and risks outdoors.
- The childminder has established and maintained positive relationships with parents and other professionals, such as teachers. This helps her to promote continuity of care and learning for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There are times during planned activities when the childminder does not use key opportunities to extend children's communication and language skills.
- The childminder does not reflect enough on the quality of teaching, the impact this has on children's learning and how she can raise this and outcomes for children to the next level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus teaching even more sharply to extend children's communication and language skills during planned activities
- monitor and review the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children in order to promote the best possible outcomes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and the children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the childminder's and her assistants' suitability to work with children. She discussed children's learning, assessment and planning and also the childminder's self-evaluation.
- The inspector obtained written feedback from parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Michelle Lorains

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The qualified childminder has a secure knowledge of the early years foundation stage and children's typical stages of development. This helps her to monitor children's progress effectively and identify any areas where they need further support. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has robust risk assessments in place to monitor hazards to children and carries out regular fire drills. This helps children know what to do in emergency situations. The childminder understands her responsibility to protect children from harm. She ensures herself and her assistants understand the procedures to follow if they have concerns about children's welfare. The childminder works alongside the local authority to access training and make improvements to the setting. For example, she has attended behaviour training to help her and her assistants use a range of different positive techniques with children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder encourages children to take an active part in the plans for their learning. For example, she has prepared an activity using dough to explore colour mixing. Young children become more engrossed in the sensory aspect of this. They develop their physical skills as they squeeze and mould this into shapes. Older children show an interest in being more creative with resources and begin to use their imagination. The childminder responds to this by enhancing the materials to enable them to express themselves further. This helps children to engage in experiences for extended lengths of time and persist to develop their skills. The childminder works very hard to complete learning journals of children's experiences in the setting. She shares highly detailed observations of children's learning and completes regular assessments of their progress. Parents also receive a written copy of children's progress when they are aged between two and three years. The childminder prepares older children for their eventual move to school. Children develop early writing skills and enjoy reading stories together with the childminder.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children benefit from plenty of opportunities to be physically active and access fresh air outdoors. They take regular walks in the community and the childminder encourages them to walk to the local school each day. This helps children to develop their understanding of their own community and other people around them. Children develop very good physical and social skills. They are confident in new situations and have high levels of self-esteem. This shows they feel safe with the childminder and are happy in her care. There are effective procedures in place to help children settle in. The childminder gathers information from parents about children's routines and how they like to go to sleep. This helps the childminder to meet their care needs very well.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in relation to their starting points in learning. The childminder quickly identifies any areas where children make slower progress and accesses further support to close any gaps. Children show readiness for school and the next stages in their learning. They are happy, sociable and eager to join in with activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY494213
Local authority	Stockton on Tees
Inspection number	1027658
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	18
Number of children on roll	14
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2015 and lives in Eaglescliffe. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The childminder works with two assistants. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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