

Childminder Report

Inspection date

2 May 2017

Previous inspection date

9 February 2015

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 uses her wealth of experience and secure understanding of children's developmental stages to observe and assess their progress. She swiftly identifies and works on any areas where children need further support to close gaps in their learning.
- The childminder has established successful partnerships with parents. She regularly gathers and shares information to complement children's ongoing learning, in order to promote continuity and help parents to feel included in their children's development.
- The childminder prepares the environment effectively so that it is stimulating and safe for children. She encourages children to be independent, active learners.
- The childminder supports children's social development effectively. One of the ways she does this is by visiting the local community and toddler groups. Children show increasing confidence in a range of situations and demonstrate that they feel safe.
- The qualified childminder is proactive in refreshing and maintaining her skills and knowledge to work with children. She works tirelessly to make continual improvements that are based on meeting children's needs to contribute to their good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, the childminder does not provide the time children need to understand and respond to questions and discussions.
- The childminder does not consistently encourage the youngest children to develop self-care skills, such as managing their daily hygiene routines.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider the length of time given to children for them to understand and respond, in order to further develop their communication and language skills
- use everyday opportunities even more effectively to support the youngest children to take a more active part in their own self-care and manage their personal hygiene.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and 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 suitability to work with children. She talked to the childminder about children's learning, assessment and planning, and also the 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 childminder has developed good partnerships with other settings children attend. For example, she gathers and shares information about children's learning with teachers and complements any learning taking place in school. She does this as part of promoting continuity for children and to sharpen assessments of their progress. The childminder regularly evaluates her practice, which helps her to promote the safety and learning of children. For example, she has used learning from training to ensure babies sleep safely and also to support older children with their transition to school. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder completes risk assessments and daily safety checks to minimise hazards to children. She has a robust knowledge of how to report concerns about children's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has an effective balance of child-led and adult-initiated activities. She prepares a range of activities for young children to access at their own pace. For example, children are engrossed in experimenting with different-sized boxes, lids and tubs. The childminder extends their learning and encourages them to think about big and small and how many they can fit in the spaces. Overall, the childminder models clear language consistently to children and uses actions to further develop their understanding. The childminder provides a range of opportunities and resources that reflects different cultures and diversity to contribute towards helping children to build an awareness of different people and communities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and settled with the childminder. They have developed secure bonds with her, which has had a positive impact on their emotional well-being. The childminder manages behaviour positively and consistently. Children show an understanding of the boundaries and develop kind and respectful attitudes. The childminder supports children to develop their understanding of healthy lifestyles. Children thoroughly enjoy choosing and tasting the fresh fruits at snack time and benefit from fresh air and physical exercise each day. Children learn how to keep themselves safe. For example, the childminder teaches them what to do in an emergency, such as when they practise the fire drill.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are working within the stages of development typically expected for their ages. The youngest children make rapid progress in their mathematical development and show increasing skill with resources that involve sorting, fitting and stacking. Older children are well prepared for starting school and develop strong reading and writing skills. Children are eager to participate in activities and show good levels of concentration.

Setting details

Unique reference number	313961
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1090787
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	1
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	9 February 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1999 and lives in Stanley, County Durham. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a qualification in childcare at level 3.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
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