

Childminder Report

Inspection date	18 May 2017
Previous inspection date	20 May 2014

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 experienced childminder keeps parents regularly updated about their child's progress and development. She encourages them to share learning that has happened at home and to contribute to assessments. This information is used well to inform her planning. Children make good progress.
- Children are happy, settled and confident. The childminder has established secure relationships with the children in her care and sets clear rules and boundaries. She encourages them to share and take turns. Children behave well.
- Children have many opportunities to take part in groups and to visit places of local interest, including beaches and parks. This helps children to develop their social skills and to promote their understanding of the wider community.
- Partnerships with other settings and professionals are well established. There is an effective two-way exchange of information that supports the continuity of children's learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not established a precisely targeted programme of professional development to drive forward improvements to the quality of teaching and learning.
- The childminder does not always allow children sufficient time to think for themselves and to answer questions.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus more precisely on developing a targeted programme of professional development that supports improvement to the quality of teaching and learning
- enhance teaching skills that allow children more time to think and respond to questions.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at documentation and evidence of the suitability of adults living on the premises.
- The inspector took into account the written views of a number of parents.

Inspector

Cathryn Clarricoates

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a secure knowledge and understanding of her role and responsibilities in helping to keep children safe. She regularly assesses risks in the home environment, as well as during frequent outings into the community. Parents comment that their children benefit from taking part regularly in a wide range of activities and outings. The childminder meets frequently with other childminders to share good practice and gather new ideas for her provision. She has a secure understanding of how to monitor children's progress. This helps her to identify and address any gaps in children's learning and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses her knowledge of children's needs and interests to help engage them in their play. For example, children enjoy making their own models using dough, different types of pasta and shape cutters. They enthusiastically describe and share their creations with the childminder and each other. The childminder extends their learning by demonstrating how to mould the dough into balls. She also introduces further resources for children to choose from, to help them explore printing and different textures. Children concentrate for significant periods of time, relative to their ages. The childminder provides an ongoing commentary to their play and routines. Overall, children are gaining good communication and language skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle quickly and demonstrate a strong sense of belonging. Their views about their play activities are taken into account to inform the childminder's planning. The childminder provides children with nutritious meals and snacks and daily opportunities to be physically active. The childminder encourages children to develop good independence through their personal care and hygiene routines. Children are learning about good dental hygiene, as they clean their teeth carefully after meals. The childminder uses praise and encouragement well, which helps to build children's confidence and self-esteem. She understands the importance of promoting the use of good manners. Parents comment that the childminder is firm but fair.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make at least expected progress for their age. They practise their early literacy skills well as they join in enthusiastically with familiar songs and rhymes and choose their favourite books to share. Children are gaining the necessary basic skills for future learning, including their move to nursery and school. They gain good mathematical skills during daily routines and outings.

Setting details

Unique reference number	313451
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1087082
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	7
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	20 May 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1992 and lives in Peterlee, County Durham. The childminder operates all year round from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except for family holidays.

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