

Childminder Report

Inspection date

27 June 2017

Previous inspection date

4 March 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 quality of teaching is outstanding. The childminder has an excellent knowledge and understanding of each child in her care and provides a vast range of activities that supports their progress and development.
- The childminder takes time to identify each child's starting points. As a result, she is able to precisely identify any gaps in children's learning and development. The childminder is committed to working with other professionals in order to successfully address any learning concerns.
- The childminder has an astute knowledge of the strengths and weaknesses of her provision. She has set relevant goals to ensure ongoing improvement. Previous recommendations have been met; for example, she has obtained an extensive range of natural resources which children freely explore and experiment with.
- The childminder has highly successful links with parents to keep them very well informed of their children's progress. She provides excellent opportunities for parents to contribute successfully to their children's learning.
- The caring and nurturing childminder establishes excellent relationships with children and their families. Children settle quickly and develop a sense of belonging. They are extremely confident, independent and motivated learners who are eager to play and explore.
- The childminder has high expectations of children's behaviour. Children develop an excellent understanding of themselves and the wider world. They show consideration and respect towards others and enjoy success in all they do.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to drive forward the new system for recording children's progress, in order to consistently support their ongoing outstanding progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact on children's progress. The inspector spoke to children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector jointly observed an activity with the childminder and held discussions regarding children's learning and progress.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder throughout the inspection. She looked at records and documents, including evidence of the suitability of adult household members.
- The inspector took account of parents' written comments.

Inspector

Eileen Grimes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder is highly committed to continually advancing her skills. For instance, she has attended a broad range of courses, including working with children with autism. This has led to improvements in her approach to children's communication and language skills. The childminder keeps an expert eye on children's progress to accurately identify and swiftly close any growing gaps in learning. She recognises that her new system of recording will provide her with even greater opportunities to analyse this information. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a very secure knowledge of possible signs of concern about a child and is confident about procedures to follow to keep children safe. She is meticulous about children's safety and carries out thorough checks on all areas of her home, toys and resources to protect children from harm.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder provides excellent levels of support to extend children's communication and language skills. For instance, she questions children expertly and uses every opportunity to teach them new vocabulary. The childminder teaches children exceptional early literacy skills. For example, she makes very good use of props to engage children in stories, prompting excellent levels of participation. The childminder supports children's understanding of the world very successfully. Children have excellent opportunities to develop investigation skills as they participate in pond dipping. They look for tadpoles and observe the differences using magnifying glasses. The childminder is highly skilled at understanding how to provide additional resources to extend children's learning. For example, as children overturn large cars to pretend to fix them, the childminder introduces a range of tools which inspires their imagination even further.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are exceptionally independent. They help to prepare fruit for their snacks and even young children can put on different items of clothing. The childminder places great importance on teaching children how to behave in safe ways. For instance, they show an excellent awareness of the younger children outdoors and ensure that they give them enough time and space to move around freely. Children demonstrate a superb knowledge of how to behave in safe ways. The childminder teaches children very healthy daily routines, such as eating nutritiously and taking part in physical activities that present highly effective challenges for all age groups.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children focus well on tasks and keenly explore their environment with endless curiosity. They are highly confident in their counting skills and have an excellent knowledge of the names of different shapes. Children use mathematical language very well to describe size. They learn extremely valuable skills to support their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY404480
Local authority	Hartlepool
Inspection number	1087343
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	4 March 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2010 and lives in Hartlepool. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a recognised early years qualification at level 3.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

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