

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 November 2017

Previous inspection date

3 March 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 childminder has a secure understanding of how young children learn. She provides an effective balance of adult-led activities and opportunities for children to explore, investigate and lead their own learning.
- Children make good progress in their learning. Most achieve levels of development typical for their age and some children exceed this. They develop skills that give them a secure foundation for later, more formal learning in school.
- The childminder plans a good range of activities and experiences that helps children to build on what they already know and can do. Children have plenty of fun as they learn.
- Children develop a sense of belonging very quickly. The childminder's warm, nurturing approach helps children to feel at ease. They develop strong bonds with the childminder and demonstrate high levels of confidence and security.
- Parents are very pleased with the services the childminder provides. They discuss how happy their children are in her care and thank her for her support in helping children to reach developmental milestones.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the childminder reflects on her practice, the arrangements for self-evaluation do not fully support her to identify precise areas for improvement.
- The childminder has not taken full advantage of opportunities to deepen her knowledge and skills through professional development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the arrangements for self-evaluation to identify priorities for development and strengthen the capacity for continuous improvement
- strengthen the programme of professional development to help enhance the good standard of teaching and keep knowledge of all aspects of practice relevant and up to date.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact this has on children's learning and development.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection. She looked at relevant documents, such as evidence of suitability checks carried out on household members, relevant policies and procedures and training records.
- The inspector looked at written feedback from parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector toured all areas of the childminder's home that are accessed by children.

Inspector

Clare Wilkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

An effective two-way flow of information helps the childminder and parents share details of children's achievements at home and in the setting. They discuss ways to support children's development in partnership. This helps to provide a consistent approach to children's care and learning. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder understands her responsibility to keep children safe from harm and knows what to do if she has a concern about a child's welfare. The childminder checks children's achievements against the levels of development typical for their age range and focuses her teaching on children's needs. She shares information with other professionals, such as health visitors. This helps her to gain a broad and balanced account of children's progress and identify areas where they may need extra support.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a clear understanding of children's learning preferences. She uses her in-depth knowledge of individual children to provide appealing activities that support children's learning well. Children demonstrate very good language and communication skills. Babies babble happily in response to the childminder's cues. They copy her actions and anticipate her responses while they play together. Children have plenty of opportunities to learn using their senses. They explore different textures, for example, as they squeeze a mixture of jelly and oats between their fingers. Children show good imaginative skills when playing with dolls. They bounce, cuddle and pretend to feed them. The childminder supports babies' physical development well as they become increasingly mobile. They progress quickly from crawling to standing and walking.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder's home is very inviting to children. The environment is stimulating and helps to encourage children's involvement in a wide range of activities. Children develop very good independence skills. For example, babies make early attempts to feed themselves and clean up after meals. The childminder has effective procedures in place to manage children's behaviour. Her calm and consistent approach helps children to understand what is expected of them and they are eager to please her. Children benefit from plenty of fresh air, exercise and nutritious snacks. This helps to promote their physical health and well-being. Children benefit from lots of praise and attention that helps to raise their self-esteem. They gain in confidence and develop a sense of pride.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are motivated and enthusiastic learners. They explore the environment with confidence and make choices in their play. Children have opportunities to take part in play sessions and activities in the local community. This gives them experience of being part of a larger group which helps to prepare them for when they move on to school. Children very much enjoy singing and story sessions with the childminder who reads and sings with enthusiasm. This helps children to develop early literacy skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY468785
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1102744
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	3 March 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2013 and lives in the Seaham area of County Durham. The childminder operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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