

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 December 2017

Previous inspection date

16 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 quality of the childminder's teaching is good, overall. She uses her knowledge of how young children learn well to help them make good progress in their learning.
- High levels of care are provided. Children grow in confidence and are motivated to explore the wide range of experiences provided for them by the childminder.
- Children behave well within the childminder's home. Gentle reminders are provided for children to help them understand the boundaries set. Close partnership working with parents provides a consistent, joined up approach to meeting children's emotional needs.
- Effective information sharing with local schools children also attend is strong. The childminder is proactive in obtaining and sharing knowledge about children's learning to develop a consistent and complementary approach to supporting them.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some activities provided for younger children are not precisely focused on their stage of development and level of understanding.
- The childminder does not use self-evaluation as effectively as possible to identify highly focused targets for improvement.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen teaching to consistently provide activities that are finely tuned to younger children's age and stage of development
- use self-evaluation more effectively to identify highly focused targets for improvement, to help achieve even better outcomes for children.

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 completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Nicola Jones

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder provides a secure home environment where children's safety is given strong priority. She keeps her knowledge of child protection updated through training and knows what procedures to take should she be concerned about a child's welfare. Risk assessment procedures are effective. The childminder carries out a range of checks prior to children arriving to ensure her home is free from hazards. The childminder monitors her provision well, overall. She reviews the activities and experiences she provides for children, ensuring they reflect their interests. Effective arrangements are in place to monitor children's assessment information. Systems, such as the childminder's tracking tool, help her to identify any areas where children may require support to reach their full potential.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder supports children's communication and language skills well. She uses effective teaching strategies, such as modelling sentences and providing clear explanations for children, to help them enhance their skills. For example, when younger children attempt to say the word 'aeroplane', the childminder repeats, 'Yes, it is an aeroplane'. The childminder is skilled in developing children's mathematical skills as they play and explore. For instance, during creative activities, she asks questions and makes suggestions, such as, 'Can you give me four green pens?' or, 'See if you can make four spots on the paper'. Children are enthused by this and respond accordingly. Good arrangements are in place for sharing children's learning with their parents and other key professionals who may also be involved. For example, the childminder shares her completed progress check for children aged between two and three years with parents and health visitors. This provides a rounded picture of children's development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy the time they spend in the childminder's warm, friendly home environment. Their physical health is supported well. The childminder uses innovative ways to help children develop an understanding of good hygiene procedures. For example, children are excited to wash their hands using the chocolate-scented handwash provided, after using the toilet. They proudly show their hands and talk about how clean they are. The childminder makes very good use of outdoor experiences, such as local parks, where children can be physically active and exuberant.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. They develop a good range of skills that supports their readiness for school. Older children demonstrate their awareness of numbers and counting and enjoy carrying out creative tasks. For example, they gather all of the green felt-tip pens together and count them accurately, saying one number for each pen. Children show high levels of enthusiasm and concentrate well during activities. They cooperate well with each other, sharing resources and taking turns with equipment.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY470180
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	1102831
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	16 May 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2013 and lives in Cramlington, Northumberland. She operates all year round from 7am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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