

Childminder Report

Inspection date

28 March 2018

Previous inspection date

10 June 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 successfully implements a wide range of policies and procedures to help to maintain children's health and safety. She carries out risk assessments to enable her to quickly identify and address any potential hazards. The premises are safe and secure for children.
- Children's emotional well-being is positively promoted. The childminder develops loving and caring relationships with children. She provides a nurturing environment where children feel happy and content.
- The childminder plans a varied balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities based on children's individual interests and preferences. This supports all children to make good rates of progress from their starting points.
- Children are independent learners and show curiosity during their learning experiences. They respond well to praise and encouragement from the childminder. This helps to build their self-esteem and confidence.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The current programme for professional development is not yet highly targeted on raising the quality of teaching to an even higher level.
- Even though the childminder uses self-evaluation systems to reflect on her daily practice, she has not explored further ways of encouraging parents to regularly share their views and opinions to support this process.

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 how professional development opportunities can be used to raise the quality of teaching to an outstanding level
- extend ways in which parents can contribute to the evaluation of the childminding provision to help to maintain continuous improvement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the childminder's home used by children and observed play and learning opportunities.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at and discussed a range of records and policies and procedures with the childminder, including evidence of qualifications and the suitability of all adults living in the household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written testimonials obtained by the childminder.

Inspector

Rachel Enright

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good knowledge of what would give her cause for concern in relation to child protection. She fully understands the procedures to follow if she has any issues about children's welfare. The childminder ensures she keeps up to date with changes to safeguarding guidance and legislation. Relevant documentation, including daily attendance registers, is organised well to assist the childminder with the smooth running of her provision.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder regularly observes children to highlight their achievements and attainments and to identify what they need to learn next. She precisely completes tracking documents to ensure any potential gaps in children's learning are swiftly closing. The childminder ensures parents are well informed about their children's development. This supports parents to continue their children's learning at home. Children's communication and language development is effectively fostered. The childminder continually talks to children and provides a running commentary during their activities. Younger children develop their early speaking skills. They use single words and make noises and sounds linked to their play. The childminder actively encourages children to be creative and to express their ideas and thoughts. For example, younger children extend their art and design skills as they use craft supplies to make Easter cards.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour is good. They are starting to be aware of appropriate rules and boundaries. The childminder implements effective settling-in procedures to help children to feel comfortable in their new environment. She gathers detailed information from parents about their children's abilities and skills to enable her to plan efficiently from the outset. The childminder makes good use of community activities and outings in the local area. These opportunities enable children to socialise with others and to enhance their physical skills. The childminder fully understands the importance of working in partnership with nursery and primary schools. She discusses the benefits of good communication with teachers to create a complementary approach to children's learning.

Outcomes for children are good

All children acquire skills needed for the next stage in their learning. They show high levels of engagement and focus and thoroughly enjoy exploring and investigating a wide selection of materials. Children develop good early mathematical skills. For instance, younger children attempt to complete jigsaws where they fit shapes into spaces and fill and empty different containers with objects. Children extend their imagination as they participate in role-play activities and use an assortment of small-world resources.

Setting details

Unique reference number	403028
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	1101856
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	10 June 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1994 and lives in Prudhoe, Northumberland. The childminder operates all year round, from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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