

Childminder Report

Inspection date

10 April 2018

Previous inspection date

6 June 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Met	
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

- Children thrive in the childminding environment. They make good progress in their development. They develop useful skills for the next stage in their learning and starting school.
- Children are very happy and have strong attachments to the childminder. They are highly confident and motivated in their learning. Children play happily in a homely environment and are confident to make choices and decisions about their play.
- The childminder frequently reviews the activities and experiences she offers children to ensure they reflect their interests and stage of development. She monitors and reviews children's progress to make sure that there are no gaps in their development.
- There are strong partnerships with parents. The childminder involves parents in all aspects of their children's care and learning. Parents speak highly of the service the childminder provides and feel well supported.
- Partnerships with other professionals, providers and schools are effective. The childminder regularly shares valuable information with other professionals to support continuity in care and learning for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children are not consistently encouraged to be as independent as possible during some activities and routine times of the day.
- The childminder has not fully targeted professional development opportunities to help enhance her practice to an even higher level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the opportunities available for children to do things for themselves that encourage their independence skills further
- focus more precisely on how professional development opportunities can be used to raise the quality of the already good practice to an outstanding level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors 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 a selection of relevant documentation.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Melanie Vincent

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder makes sure that all children are kept safe at all times. She has a good knowledge of the procedures to follow should she have concerns about the welfare of children in her care. The childminder keeps fully up to date with relevant information, such as current contact details and local procedures to ensure children are kept safe. The childminder completes detailed daily checks so that all children can enjoy an extremely safe and secure learning environment. She regularly evaluates the service that she provides. The childminder identifies the positive impact on children's learning and where improvements need to be made.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder observes children as they play and completes accurate assessments of their learning. She is skilled in using a wide range of strategies to promote children's learning. The childminder encourages children to engage in imaginative play which is based on first-hand experiences. For example, children play with role-play resources and confidently pretend to care for dolls. The childminder provides many opportunities for children to use many different materials to develop their early writing skills. Children are highly motivated to make marks with paints, brushes and sponges. Young children create detailed drawings and pictures. They show a great deal of pride in their artwork and demonstrate a sense of achievement. The childminder uses appropriate language to help promote children's understanding of colours, shapes and numbers during their play. Children's language development is given high priority by the childminder. She is skilled in her interactions with children and they are developing good communication skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder makes sure every child is nurtured and their contributions are valued. Children enjoy mixing and socialising with other children. They show a keen interest in what others do and build strong friendships as they play. The older children are extremely kind to the younger ones. Children's behaviour is very good. The childminder encourages children to share, take turns and use good manners when they play. Children delight in the praise and encouragement they receive from the childminder for their achievements. The childminder encourages children to make healthy choices. They plant vegetables and fruit in the childminder's garden. Children enjoy a variety of visits to local community groups where they have the opportunity to socialise in larger groups. They have opportunities to be active and engage in physical activities, such as playing outside, swimming and while on outings or visiting the park.

Outcomes for children are good

Children communicate clearly and eagerly respond to simple questions and instructions. They learn to be sociable and confident with other adults and children. All children show good levels of enthusiasm when they play. They are enthusiastic learners and explore the environment with confidence. Children learn about similarities and differences between people and cultures beyond their own community.

Setting details

Unique reference number	313996
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1122059
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	6 June 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1997 and lives in Chester-le-Street, County Durham. She operates all year round from 7am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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