

Childminder Report

Inspection date

12 April 2018

Previous inspection date

9 September 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 is a positive role model and sets clear, age-appropriate boundaries. She reminds children to use good manners, be kind, share and take turns. This helps children to develop their social skills and learn to behave well.
- Children enjoy regular outings, such as to local museums, playgroups and indoor play centres. These experiences help children to find out about the community in which they live, and the similarities and differences between themselves and others.
- The childminder regularly updates her programme of professional development. She uses the knowledge gained to inform her planning to meet children's needs. For example, she has developed the use of recyclable materials to provide more opportunities for creative play. In addition, she frequently meets with other childminders to exchange ideas. This helps to improve outcomes for children.
- The childminder supports the development of children's effective communication and language skills. For example, she engages in meaningful conversations with children about their interests and gives them time to think and respond to questions. Children make good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not consistently provide highly challenging activities for all children to help extend their learning even further.
- The childminder does not obtain precise and detailed information from parents about their child's achievements when they start with her.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the range of stimulating opportunities for children to experience even more challenge during their play
- gather more detailed information from parents about children's capabilities on entry to the setting.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children, at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed an evaluated activity with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including evidence of the suitability of adults living and working on the premises.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents, expressed in written feedback.

Inspector

Cathryn Clarricoates

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a secure understanding of how to identify and report any child protection concerns. She applies a good awareness of how to minimise any risks in the indoor and outdoor environments. The childminder recognises the importance of working in partnership with other professionals to help meet children's individual needs. She exchanges meaningful information with other settings attended by children in her care, to support a consistent approach to their learning. The childminder regularly reflects on her practice and plans improvements. For example, she intends to provide more opportunities for children to explore and investigate resources outdoors.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder observes children's play regularly. She completes accurate assessments to help ensure that any gaps in children's learning are quickly identified and addressed. The childminder provides regular verbal and written reports for parents, who say that they feel very well informed about their children's experiences and progress. She spontaneously introduces familiar songs and rhymes, as children play, which helps them to develop good listening skills. Children independently access books and delight in pretending to read the words. They also practise their early literacy skills when they make marks on paper with brightly coloured pencils. The childminder supports the development of children's early mathematical skills well. For example, children count blueberries and strawberries when preparing their healthy snack.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides children with plenty of encouragement and praise. This helps them to settle well and supports their growing confidence and self-esteem. Children enjoy a nutritious diet. They benefit from exercise and fresh air, such as, during outings to the local park. This helps them to develop their good physical skills. The childminder provides activities, for example, tasting a range of fruit, to help develop children's understanding of the importance of a healthy lifestyle. Children learn to use tools, including knives, to chop up bananas and strawberries safely.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well-prepared for their future learning, including their eventual move on to nursery and school. They are self-assured in social situations, such as, when meeting new visitors to the childminder's home. Children develop firm friendships with each other and are kind and helpful. They are independent, relative to their ages, and delight in carrying out a range of tasks with minimal support. For example, they help to tidy away resources between activities and wipe their sticky hands clean.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY400052
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1105030
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	9 September 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2009 and lives in Stanley, County Durham. The childminder operates all year round from 7.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides early funded education for two- and three-year-old children.

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