

Childminder Report

Inspection date

9 May 2018

Previous inspection date

30 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 demonstrates that she has a good understanding of individual children's interests and needs. She uses this knowledge well overall to plan a range of appropriate activities and promote children's good progress in all areas of learning.
- Children form close bonds with the childminder and other children in her care. They explore the resources and know where to find their favourite toys. This helps them to feel a sense of belonging. They settle well and their behaviour is very good.
- Children benefit from the effective partnerships the childminder has established with parents. A wealth of information is shared, which helps to ensure that children's needs are met. Parents are very complimentary about the childminder and comment that, 'The childminder is a caring lovely person and children have a fun filled day'.
- The childminder evaluates the activities she provides and reflects on her practice. She asks parents frequently for their opinion on the service she provides. She takes account of their views and plans to make improvements to her setting.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not yet established a highly focused programme of professional development to drive forward future improvements and raise the quality of the provision.
- Occasionally, the childminder does not provide high enough levels of challenge, specifically for the older or most-able children, to ensure they benefit from the best learning opportunities.

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 developing a targeted programme of professional development that helps ensure high-quality practice is sustained and consistently improved upon
- develop teaching strategies used during activities to provide more challenge for the older and most-able children, to increase the potential for them to make more rapid progress in their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas used for childminding.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact on children's progress. She spoke to the childminder and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at documentation and records, including evidence of the suitability of adults within the home.
- The inspector took account of parents' comments.

Inspector

Eileen Grimes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder works well with other early years settings that children attend. She gathers information about children's learning to promote consistency. The childminder helps children to be ready for when they move on to school. Younger children go with her when she takes older children to school. This helps them to become familiar with the environment and teachers. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good understanding of the policies and procedures she would use to report any concerns for a child's welfare and is confident in identifying possible signs of abuse. The childminder carries out thorough risk assessments in her home and when on outings to help minimise harm towards children. She fully involves children in becoming more aware of risks, such as taking part in fire evacuation procedures in the home and at the toddler group that they attend.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, the childminder plans children's learning carefully, for example, by identifying activities that enable them to practise their developing skills. She helps them learn how to use resources effectively. She guides children to use particular equipment as they investigate with sand to develop skills, such as colour awareness and physical control. The childminder maximises opportunities to support young children's early communication and language. For example, she talks with young children, correcting their pronunciation of words in a supportive manner. The childminder is skilled at understanding children as they communicate their needs and preferences. Overall, the childminder gives children good opportunities to explore their interests. For instance, they experiment with different resources to create their own pictures.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a warm and welcoming learning environment with a good range of resources for children to make choices about their play. This helps them to be independent and enjoy learning. The childminder helps children learn to adopt healthy lifestyles and they are very aware of using tissues and the need to, 'Catch the germs when you cough'. She promotes healthy eating and children benefit from daily fresh air and exercise. The childminder takes children on visits to local parks and places of interest. Children benefit from enjoyable experiences that help them to gain a good understanding of the natural world and their local community.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in relation to their starting points. They enjoy a range of experiences across all areas of learning that helps to prepare them well for school. Children learn to use mathematics in their everyday play, such as counting. They learn concepts, such as 'more' or 'less', to help prepare them for simple calculations. Children learn to use their imaginations well and talk about the cakes they are making for tea in the mud kitchen. They are motivated to learn and form positive attitudes to learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY464209
Local authority	Stockton on Tees
Inspection number	1105538
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	30 September 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2013 and lives in Thornaby. She operates all year round from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant childcare qualification at level 3.

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