

Childminder Report

Inspection date

24 May 2018

Previous inspection date

8 October 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 good teaching skills and is receptive to the interests and needs of individual children.
- The childminder works closely with parents to involve them in their children's learning. She meets with them regularly to exchange information about their children's development. The childminder encourages parents to support their children's learning by providing activity ideas and resources to try at home.
- The childminder teaches children to keep themselves and others safe. For example, they practise emergency evacuation procedures to help ensure that they can act swiftly and safely in the event of a fire. Children also learn about road safety on outings. This helps them to understand danger and how to assess and manage risks safely.
- Children are happy and content. The childminder uses a good settling-in process to help children to build good emotional bonds with her.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder completes mandatory training. However, she has not introduced a targeted programme of professional development to further enhance her already good teaching skills and raise them to the highest level.
- The childminder does not reflect ambitiously enough on the overall quality of the setting. She does not set clear and precise targets for the future aimed towards raising the standard of her setting as far as possible.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the programme of professional development to raise standards in teaching and learning even higher
- reflect more ambitiously on the overall quality of the setting and set clearer targets for future development to help raise the standard as far as possible.

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 relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke with children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is knowledgeable about how to identify potential signs of abuse and report concerns about children's welfare. She keeps her knowledge of safeguarding legislation up to date through attending child protection training. The childminder carries out regular risk assessments to ensure children are kept safe on the premises and on outings. She monitors children's progress well to identify and address any gaps in their learning. The childminder seeks the views of parents and children to improve her provision. Parents comment that they are very pleased with the care and learning experiences that their children receive.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder involves parents from the start in sharing information about what their children know and can do. She uses this information, along with her own observations, to determine children's starting points and identify their next steps in learning. The experienced childminder skilfully integrates all areas of learning into children's play. For example, as she reads a story she encourages children to talk about what they see. They count and name the pieces of fruit. The childminder helps children to learn about the life cycle of a butterfly as they observe how caterpillars grow each day. She provides fun activities that motivate and challenge children's learning. For example, they pick up dried pasta and carefully slot it into a bottle to make a musical shaker. Children concentrate, and show great perseverance and delight when they achieve this task.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder has a highly sensitive and caring attitude to children's well-being. She develops a close rapport with children, who form very strong relationships and are happy in her care. Children are well behaved and they respond positively to guidance from the childminder. For instance, she gives gentle reminders about sharing toys and being kind to each other. The childminder consistently gives children praise and encouragement and acknowledges their achievements. This helps to promote children's self-esteem and boosts their confidence. The childminder provides drinking water and a range of fruits for children's snacks. She talks to children about the importance of eating a healthy, well-balanced diet.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident, interested and eager to learn. They enjoy books and progress well with their literacy skills. For example, they use tools, such as crayons and pens to make marks. Older children are confident in letting the childminder know what they want to play with. Children confidently ask questions, demonstrate increasing independence, and complete manageable tasks. For instance, they help to tidy away toys with little prompting and select their own resources to play with. Children are developing the skills they need in preparation for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY362000
Local authority	Stockton on Tees
Inspection number	1104671
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	8 October 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Norton, Stockton. She operates all year round from 6am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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