

Childminder Report

Inspection date

6 June 2018

Previous inspection date

16 June 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 and her assistants observe children's play to find out what they know and can do. They plan interesting activities that help children to make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder forms strong partnerships with parents and other settings that children attend. Regular information is shared about children's learning and activities they enjoy. Parents are positive about the childminder and the service that she provides.
- Children's behaviour is good, and they play amicably together. The childminder encourages children to build friendships, share toys and communicate effectively with each other. Children cooperate well and learn to be kind and respectful to one another.
- Children develop their independence skills. They are encouraged to manage aspects of their self-care, such as washing their own hands in preparation for mealtimes and tidying away their toys.
- The childminder effectively monitors her provision through regular self-evaluation. She has met the actions that were set at her last inspection. For example, she now keeps a daily record of the hours that children attend.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not always have consistent opportunities to explore, investigate and develop their natural curiosity.
- The childminder does not fully encourage children to develop their early writing skills during their play and learning activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage children to develop further their skills in exploring and investigating to build on their learning and curiosity
- extend the opportunities available for children to make meaningful marks and develop their early writing skills during their play and learning activities.

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 discussions with the childminder. She looked at a selection of relevant documentation.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder's assistants and children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through the written feedback provided.

Inspector

Melanie Vincent

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder and her assistants have a good understanding of the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. They use risk assessments effectively to help identify potential hazards in the home and while on outings to help keep children safe. The childminder works with two assistants and they regularly meet to evaluate their service and discuss their practice. She supports her assistants well to understand their responsibilities through regular supervision meetings and appraisals. The childminder works with her local authority to update her knowledge and skills regularly. She makes good use of training and uses what she learns to benefit the children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder makes regular, focused observations of children's achievements and uses effective systems to monitor their development. Children are motivated and access a range of activities that matches their age and stage of learning. The childminder supports children's early literacy development well. Children enjoy regular singing and story times, and the childminder takes them to visit their local library to choose favourite stories to read. The childminder provides many opportunities for children to use many different materials to develop their creativity. Children are motivated to print with paint and different vegetables. Young children show a great deal of pride in their artwork and demonstrate a sense of achievement. The childminder supports children to develop their communication and imaginations well. Children purposefully engage in playing 'shops' and pretend to cook 'tea' for the childminder and her assistants.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a welcoming environment. Children are happy and well settled. They enjoy taking part in a range of stimulating activities. Children know where to find their favourite toys and make independent decisions about their play. The childminder helps children to explore the local community, such as through visits to local playgroups, soft play and parks. She helps children to gain an awareness of the world beyond her home. The childminder plans daily opportunities for children to exercise and ensures they have plenty of opportunities for outdoor play. Children enjoy taking part in 'baby yoga' sessions to help support their developing physical skills and coordination. Children learn about healthy lifestyles and keeping safe. They benefit from healthy and nutritious snacks and meals. The childminder teaches children how to stay safe in her home and on outings in the community.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and develop good skills that prepare them well for their next stages of learning and their eventual move to nursery and school. Children are keen and enthusiastic learners. They are eager to participate and make good progress in their development. Children learn to count and to recognise numbers, colours and shapes. They sit quietly and listen to stories with interest.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY289090
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1110360
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	11
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	16 June 2017
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in Consett, County Durham. She operates all year round from 6.30am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3. She works with two assistants, one of whom also holds a childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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