

Childminder Report

Inspection date

15 June 2018

Previous inspection date

30 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 has strong partnerships with parents. She encourages them to share information about what their child likes to do at home, to further support continuity in children's learning and care.
- Self-evaluation is effective. The childminder regularly reflects on her practice and seeks the views of parents and children on her service. This helps her to plan and action improvements to help support children's individual changing needs.
- The childminder completes regular and accurate assessments of the progress children make. She successfully uses these to help her monitor and support any gaps in their development. Children make good progress in their learning.
- The play environment is stimulating and is well resourced. Children make independent choices as they play and access a range of easily accessible resources.
- Children are very settled with this experienced, kind and caring childminder. They develop confidence and show increasing independence as they wash their hands before eating and help to put on their own coat and shoes ready to go outdoors.
- Children have a very secure and trusting relationship with the childminder, who effectively supports their emotional well-being and strong sense of belonging.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, the childminder uses closed questions which do not help children to build on their own critical thinking in their responses, to help extend their learning further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the use of questioning to help children to build on their own critical thinking and responses, to help extend their learning even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation 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 from discussion and the written feedback provided.

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder ensures that her knowledge of child protection is kept up to date. She has a good understanding of the procedures to follow regarding the welfare of a child and can report any concerns quickly. The childminder attends local childminder cluster meetings where she gains ideas for improving her practice and for implementing new legislation. The childminder monitors children's progress successfully to help identify and narrow any gaps in their learning. She forms effective and secure partnerships with other settings that the children attend. This enables her to complement the experiences children have elsewhere and provides continuity of care and learning. Parents' comments about the quality of the childcare their children receive are highly positive.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder effectively observes, tracks and assesses children's development, and regularly shares information gathered with parents. She positively encourages parents to contribute to their children's learning at home. The childminder organises her time well to give attention to the children so that they feel involved and included as they play and explore. She generally asks questions that help children to think and express their thoughts and ideas. For example, children discuss the colours and what will happen next in the story. Children are motivated to learn and try new things. They work out how to switch a torch on and are excited to use it inside the tent. The childminder extends this further by suggesting they could shine the torch onto the book while she reads the story.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder is kind, nurturing and a good role model for children. She knows the children well and gives gentle reminders to help them understand how to behave well. The childminder keeps children safe at all times. She constantly considers ways to help ensure that risks to children in her home and on outings are minimised. For example, she reminds children to sit safely at the table and take care using the play equipment in the garden. This helps children to begin to develop an awareness of risks. The childminder provides healthy snacks and meals, taking into account the dietary needs of the children in her care. She takes children to groups in the community. This helps children to develop confidence and social skills.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are inquisitive and capable learners who happily explore the rich environment indoors and outdoors. They demonstrate early number skills, for example, as they carefully line up and count pretend cakes. Children show a love of books and listen well to stories. They practise early writing skills and making marks with a variety of writing tools, such as chalk and crayons. Children help to tidy toys away and learn the importance of maintaining a safe play environment. They are progressing well and are ready for the next stages in their learning and their eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY408387
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1105095
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	30 October 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2010 and lives in Sedgefield, Stockton-on-Tees. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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