

Childminder Report

Inspection date

11 July 2018

Previous inspection date

3 December 2015

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 makes accurate observations of children at play and checks their development against typical levels for their age. She uses her findings to plan appealing and challenging activities based on what children need to learn next.
- Children enjoy their learning. They make good progress and develop a positive attitude towards learning that helps to prepare them well for later learning in school.
- The childminder clearly enjoys her role. She joins in with children's play with enthusiasm and makes learning fun and interesting. Children are very motivated and eager to learn.
- Children benefit from warm and trusting relationships with the childminder. They demonstrate a strong sense of belonging and are confident and happy in her care.
- Parents are very happy with the care and learning the childminder provides. They commend her for the nurturing and positive atmosphere she provides. They describe the childminder as friendly, trustworthy and approachable.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder's self-evaluation is not rigorous enough to identify precise ways to build on her already strong teaching and help children to make even better progress in their learning.
- There is scope to share even more information about children's development and achievements with others involved in their learning, for example parents and other early years settings.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus self-evaluation more precisely on raising the quality of teaching to outstanding levels
- strengthen partnerships with others to help provide a more cohesive approach to children's learning and development and support children to make even better progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the childminder's home used for childminding.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed its impact on children's learning and development.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at a range of documents, including evidence of suitability checks carried out on adults at the address.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She also took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector
Clare Wilkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The qualified and experienced childminder is committed to continuing with her own professional development. For example, she has learned more about children's patterns of behaviour during their play, which has helped her to plan effectively for young children's ongoing learning. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder keeps up to date with current guidance and legislation. This helps to strengthen her knowledge of how to identify children who may be at risk from harm and she knows what to do if she is concerned about a child's welfare. The childminder gathers the views of parents and children to help review general aspects of her practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder communicates well with children. She speaks clearly to them and uses skilful questions during play that encourage children to think and describe. This helps to promote their language development and thinking skills. The childminder provides an appropriate balance of adult-led activities and opportunities for children to lead their own learning. Children confidently extend their own play. For example, after exploring jelly, children show good imaginative skills when they decide to open a shop to sell the jelly cakes they make. The childminder further supports their learning by providing a cash register with money and pretends to be a customer. This helps to support children's mathematical development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder has a sensitive and fair approach to managing children's behaviour. Children respond well, learn right from wrong and show respect and consideration for others. The childminder has high expectations for children's independence. They manage their own self-care needs capably and develop a strong sense of responsibility. They are very self-assured and talk confidently about moving on to nursery. Children benefit from plenty of fresh air and exercise and the childminder works with parents to ensure children have a healthy diet. This helps to promote their good physical health and well-being. Children attend activities in the local area where they socialise with a wider group of children and develop friendships. The childminder teaches children about how to keep themselves safe, for example when crossing roads.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning and are working within the range of development typical for their age. They are keen learners who concentrate at activities of their choosing for extended periods of time. They develop their own ideas and confidently select their own resources to extend their play. Children benefit from tailored teaching that helps them to develop new skills in preparation for school. For example, they use small tools and their fingers to squeeze and mould during messy play. This helps to develop their hand control and coordination in preparation for learning to write.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY278915
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1128964
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	3 December 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in Dipton, County Durham. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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