

Childminder Report

Inspection date

11 July 2018

Previous inspection date

13 April 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

- Children have a lovely relationship with the childminder and her co-childminder. Parents comment that they feel that their children are part of a big, happy family.
- The childminder works well with her co-childminder and together they form an effective team. They support each other to be the best they can possibly be.
- The childminder places a high priority on children's safety. They are cared for in a clean and well-maintained environment.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. The childminder and her co-childminder have established effective methods of sharing information about children's learning. They talk to parents about how they can support children's learning further.
- Children make good progress in their learning. Children enjoy their learning and access resources independently. They are confident to talk to visitors and other children alike.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always use her good assessments to identify precisely what children need to learn next.
- Sometimes children lose interest in activities because the childminder directs their learning too much and does not give them enough time to follow their own interests.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make best use of the information gained from assessments to identify precisely what children need to learn next
- strengthen children's engagement and involvement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector had a tour of the premises and spoke to children during the inspection.
- 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 took account of the views of parents and teachers at local schools through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Elizabeth Fish

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder is keen to improve her provision. She seeks the views of parents and has identified ways that she can improve her provision further. For example, she is currently enhancing her outdoor provision to provide more opportunities for children to develop their exploratory skills. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good knowledge of signs and symptoms that may indicate possible abuse to children. She knows whom to contact should she have any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder works well with her co-childminder and the local authority, and is keen to attend training to strengthen her practice further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows children well. She has worked effectively with her co-childminder to establish a well-organised learning environment that supports all areas of learning. Children enjoy their learning, overall. When they are able to follow their own interests, they are engaged and motivated. For example, they concentrated well as they explored the jungle animals and created a jungle scene. Children are confident communicators. They confidently ask the childminder for things that they want and explain why they need them. The childminder provides opportunities for children to learn about shapes and colours. Older children demonstrate their good counting skills as they count objects accurately to 10.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are incredibly happy and settled in the childminder's care. Children enjoy being with each other and have developed strong friendships with each other. For example, older children enjoy playing together in the sand. They talk together about the cakes they are making and help each other to put them in the oven, checking with each other when they will be ready. The childminder helps children to understand how they can keep themselves healthy. They understand they must wash their hands before eating. They also enjoy a range of healthy, home-cooked meals. Children have plenty of fresh air as they play in the childminder's well-equipped garden for extended periods. They enjoy physical exercise as they visit local parks and tourist attractions. Parents comment that they value the childminder's ethos of learning through the outdoor environment.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. They gain a good range of skills, which prepares them well for the next stage in their learning. Children enjoy drawing on the chalkboards and talk about what they are drawing. Older children write with a clear purpose in mind and talk about the letters and words they are writing. Younger children demonstrate their emerging physical skills as they kick a football with increasing accuracy and climb up climbing frames.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY347074
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1092965
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	8
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	13 April 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2007. She lives in Consett, County Durham. She works with a co-childminder. Her hours of operation are Monday to Thursday from 7am until 6pm, and Friday from 6.30am until 9am. The childminder is open all year round, except bank holidays and family holidays. She provides funded places for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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