

Childminder report

4 Cherrytree Drive, Langley Park, DURHAM DH7 9FX



Inspection date	5 October 2018
Previous inspection date	8 December 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- The childminder works well with other professionals, such as schools and health visitors. She shares information to help ensure a shared approach to supporting children's learning.
- Children make good progress. The childminder uses her skills to observe children and identify what they need to learn next.
- Children settle quickly. They develop a close bond with the childminder and quickly develop confidence to talk to the childminder about what they would like to do while they are in her care.
- Children behave well. The childminder has clear behavioural expectations which she consistently reinforces. She works with parents to develop consistency in managing children's behaviour.
- The childminder supports children's independence skills effectively. She encourages children to choose and use their own resources and tidy up after they have finished.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder's evaluations are not sufficiently focused on how she can strengthen her own teaching to raise children's achievements even further.
- The childminder does not make the best use of all opportunities to help the youngest children to develop their speech, to support them to make the best possible progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen evaluations and focus more precisely on improvements that can be made to teaching to enhance children's learning further
- extend opportunities for the youngest children to develop their communication skills fully and raise their achievements 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 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 to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector
Elizabeth Fish

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder is keen to improve her own provision, overall. She undertakes research in her own time to strengthen some aspects of her knowledge. For example, recent research has strengthened her understanding of how she can observe and plan for children's learning. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good knowledge of the 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 monitors children's learning and takes effective action when she identifies areas where further support is needed.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are motivated to learn. The childminder recognises the importance of children learning through play. She provides a range of opportunities for children to choose what they would like to do. For example, children choose to play with the play dough. Young children concentrate well as they mix play dough together and use various tools. Good support by the childminder helps to extend children's learning as they begin to learn new skills, such as cutting with scissors. The childminder works well with parents and encourages them to build on children's learning at home. For example, she sends home resources that children have enjoyed playing with so parents can extend this learning further.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop a good relationship with the childminder and other children. Children who have recently joined the setting demonstrate their growing confidence as they initiate conversations with the childminder. They thrive on the consistent routine that the childminder has established. For example, children eagerly anticipate their weekly visit to the local shops. The childminder goes out of her way to support children and their families. For example, she offers alternative arrangements to make sure children can attend, whenever possible. Parents comment that the childminder has been a 'true saviour' to them. Children develop an understanding of how they can keep themselves healthy. They enjoy a range of healthy snacks. Young children know that they must wash their hands after using the toilet and before eating. They enjoy fresh air as they play in the childminder's garden.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress. They develop a good range of skills which prepares them for the next stage in their next learning. Young children learn how to use a range of tools, such as scissors and rolling pins. They develop an enjoyment of mark making as they draw lines and circles on a large chalkboard on the wall. They explore the marks they can make when they hold chalks in both hands.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY342347
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	10069299
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 - 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	14
Date of previous inspection	8 December 2014

The childminder registered in 2006. She lives in Langley Park, near Durham. TThe childminder operates all year round, from 6am to 6pm from Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded places for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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