

Childminder report

Inspection date	14 November 2018
Previous inspection date	21 April 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Good	1 2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is outstanding

- The childminder has an excellent understanding of the requirements of the early years foundation stage and implements these to a high standard. She ensures children's needs are fully met at all times.
- Children's well-being is promoted to the highest level. The childminder is very nurturing and children form extremely strong bonds with her. Children are exceptionally happy, comfortable and confident in the setting. Highly successful strategies are in place to celebrate their efforts and children display high levels of self-esteem.
- The childminder's detailed and organised records have a significant impact on her planning and assessments for each individual child. She monitors their progress rigorously across all areas of learning and quickly focuses on closing any gaps in their achievement.
- The accomplished childminder is passionate about her work and reflects continually on her practice to ensure continuous development. She evaluates her provision with help and support from parents and children.
- Excellent use is made of community facilities, such as parks, toddler groups and nature areas. This gives children additional opportunities to build on their already impressive social skills, enhance their physical development and helps them to learn even more about the world around them.
- Partnerships with parents are highly successful. First-rate systems are in place to keep parents informed and involved in their children's learning. Both parties work very closely together to promote high levels of continuity of care and learning.
- The childminder forges excellent working partnerships with other settings attended by children. She shares information and works closely with them to ensure children's needs are met and to help them make the most progress possible.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to enhance the already excellent arrangements for continuous professional development to help maintain the first-rate practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this had 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 and working in the household.
- The inspector spoke with the children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Lindsey Pollock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has an excellent knowledge of procedures that enable her to protect children from harm. She is highly conscientious about children's safety and welfare. The childminder is qualified and both she and her assistant have a wealth of experience in childcare. Rigorous systems are in place for the supervision and development of assistants' work. The childminder is keen to maintain professional development. She attends training and implements what she learns to enhance outcomes for children. For example, a recent course on health, exercise and nutrition for the young has given her even more ideas for how she can raise children's understanding of how to have a healthy lifestyle. Parents pay the childminder the highest accolades. For example, they say, 'she has played a massive role in my children's development' and 'the childminder is an excellent practitioner whom I would highly recommend'.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder has an excellent understanding of how young children learn and is very focused on ensuring that children leave her setting with the key skills they need for school. She is highly responsive to their learning preferences, individual interests and achievements. The learning environment, particularly the outdoor area, is extremely well planned and highly stimulating. It sparks children's curiosity as they investigate, make plans and solve problems. The childminder is highly skilful in the way she interacts with children. She supports children's ability to talk about their own experiences and models spoken language. She asks them questions, which help children to think deeply and explain their answers.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children's behaviour is exemplary. They are polite, well-mannered and considerate of each other. They listen when appropriate and help and care for each other. For example, older children help their younger peers to get down from the table after lunch and involve them in their play. Mealtimes are a happy, relaxed event when children sit with the childminder and show splendid table manners. They eat with utensils, such as knives and forks, and declare the food to be 'delicious'. Gentle reminders from the childminder help children learn how to keep themselves safe and understand the reasons for this. Children gain an excellent understanding of positive health and hygiene practices.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make consistently high rates of progress in relation to their starting points. They are extremely well prepared for nursery and school. They demonstrate impressive self-care skills, control and independence from a very early age. They have a positive attitude to learning and are highly motivated and enthusiastic about all that they do. For example, they concentrate intently as they fill containers with rice and pasta to make musical instruments. They are skilful communicators and knowledgeably discuss and compare size, weight and shape with the childminder. They then use their instruments to make sounds as they do the 'hokey-cokey' and dance like a 'dingle dangle scarecrow' during a lively, fabulous music-and-movement session.

Setting details

Unique reference number	312646
Local authority	Middlesbrough
Inspection number	10059963
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 10
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	21 April 2015

The childminder registered in 1996 and lives in Middlesbrough. She operates her provision all year round from 7.30am to 5.15pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with assistants. She holds a relevant childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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