

Childminder report

Inspection date	16 November 2018
Previous inspection date	9 April 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	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's drive towards excellence is inspiring. Self-evaluation is rigorous and considers the views of parents, children and other professionals. This has helped the childminder to raise every aspect of her practice to consistently outstanding levels.
- The childminder has an excellent understanding of the ways young children learn. She uses her expert knowledge of the areas of learning to plan activities that precisely match children's learning needs. This contributes to the rapid progress they make across all areas of learning.
- Children show a remarkably positive attitude to learning from a very young age. They are very eager to participate and concentrate extremely well at activities. This helps to prepare them exceptionally well for later learning in school.
- The childminder has a nurturing, gentle approach that puts children at ease. Excellent arrangements to settle new children help them to quickly develop a sense of belonging and develop high levels of confidence.
- Parents are overwhelmingly very happy with the care and learning opportunities the childminder provides. They describe her as a 'first-class childminder' and thank her for 'going above and beyond' their expectations.
- The childminder is an excellent role model for children. She sets very high expectations for positive behaviour and sensitively supports children to manage their feelings and frustrations. Children behave remarkably well and learn to consider the needs and feelings of others.
- Partnerships with parents and other settings are highly effective. Parents are fully informed about the childminder's plans for children's learning and extend this at home. The childminder and nursery staff assess children's achievements together and the plans for children's learning are shared to help ensure a cohesive approach.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to assess the impact of the excellent improvements to the outdoor areas on children's learning and development.

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 spoke to the childminder and her assistant at appropriate times during the inspection. She looked at a range of documents, including evidence of the suitability checks carried out on people living and working at the address.
- The inspector observed and evaluated an activity alongside the childminder.
- The inspector interacted with children at appropriate times during the inspection. She looked at written feedback from parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Clare Wilkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder makes a remarkable effort to keep her knowledge of safeguarding procedures up to date. This helps her to identify and respond to any concerns about a child's welfare swiftly. The childminder takes part in an extensive range of professional development opportunities. She reviews what she learns and how it impacts on outcomes for children. For example, following a training course, she extended children's opportunities to lead their own learning indoors and identified that this helped them to develop into more confident and independent learners. She is currently considering the impact of changes to her outdoor areas. The childminder has high expectations of her assistant and supports him well. This helps to build on his skills and knowledge and upholds the overall outstanding practice very well.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Assessments of children's abilities are highly accurate and are used extremely well to plan meticulously for children's ongoing learning. The childminder knows children extremely well and plans exciting activities that are finely tuned to their interests and learning preferences. Older children share out porridge in different-sized bowls. The childminder guides their learning very skilfully and provides resources and prompts, encouraging them to count, compare and estimate. This helps promote their mathematical learning extremely well. They extend their own learning and show curiosity and perseverance, adding water to the porridge and exploring how it changes. Babies smile and kick their legs in glee during warm interactions with the childminder. They quickly develop their physical strength and ability, for example when they are encouraged to stretch and move to reach toys that appeal to them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children benefit from a highly stimulating environment that supports all aspects of their development very well. The childminder promotes equality and diversity particularly well. For example, children teach one another traditional dances that are important to their culture. They develop a respect and understanding of the similarities and differences between themselves and others. The childminder upholds stringent procedures for hygiene and teaches children about healthy lifestyles. They benefit from a wholesome, varied menu and plenty of opportunities for fresh air and exercise. Children and babies form close bonds with both adults and their friends. They demonstrate exceptionally high levels of self-esteem. Children capably manage their self-care needs and are very independent. They relish taking responsibility for small tasks and are eager to help.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make commendable achievements in their learning and exceed the levels of development that are typically expected for their age. They benefit from the childminder's expert knowledge of how to support their early literacy skills. Younger children develop an avid interest in books and older children learn about letters and the sounds they make. Babies listen to rhymes and songs with increasing interest and respond with giggles and excited arm movements. Children are exceptionally well prepared for later learning in school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY336204
Local authority	Hartlepool Borough
Inspection number	10070359
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 7
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	9 April 2015

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Hartlepool. She works with an assistant. Opening hours are 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds two relevant early years qualifications at level 3.

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