

Childminder report

Inspection date	13 December 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Not applicable	1
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

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder is highly skilled and extremely passionate about providing children with the best possible start in their learning and development. She has high expectations for every child and helps them to make excellent progress in every area of learning.
- Older children are exceptionally well prepared for starting school. The childminder supports them to build resilience and independence. Older children's assessments demonstrate they are high achievers and have excellent literacy and mathematical skills.
- The childminder has an excellent understanding of how to promote young children's communication and language skills. She uses a range of interventions and supports parents to understand how to do this at home. Babies and young children make rapid progress in relation to their starting points.
- Babies benefit from the childminder's caring and nurturing approach. The childminder knows all of the children in her care exceptionally well and has excellent procedures to help new children settle in. Children have secure bonds with her and show they feel safe as they fall asleep in her arms.
- The childminder provides highly stimulating and exciting areas for children to explore. She ensures activities are prepared to capture children's interests at the beginning of their day. Parents describe this as 'the perfect setting' and are happy with the way the childminder values their children's achievements through displays around the playroom.
- The childminder has vast experience in childcare and has undertaken a wealth of professional development. This has led to many areas of expertise which have a positive impact for children and their families. The childminder values and actively seeks to work in partnership with other professionals and has highly effective relationships with children's families. This helps to promote continuity.
- The childminder prioritises children's safety and well-being. She has a robust understanding of how to identify children and families who are vulnerable and knows how to act swiftly to report concerns.

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 excellent standards of care and learning in place.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the childminder's and her assistant's suitability to work with children. She discussed children's learning, assessment and planning with the childminder.
- The inspector obtained verbal and written feedback from parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Michelle Lorains

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder reflects on and sharply evaluates her own and her assistant's practice. She gathers feedback from parents and listens to children's ideas to help her drive forward improvement. For example, she reflects on the environment regularly and makes enhancements to provide the highest levels of stimulation for children. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder ensures her assistant understands the procedures to follow to keep children safe and has supported her to begin a childcare qualification to develop her skills. She is aware of the need to continue professional development to maintain excellent outcomes for children. The childminder has a thorough understanding of the early years foundation stage and strives to maintain excellence. She provides parents with home learning packs and guidance on various aspects of child development, such as how to promote language skills. Parents are amazed at the level of support they receive and describe the childminder as 'part of the family'. The childminder very robustly monitors children's progress across every area of learning and acts swiftly to close gaps.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Teaching is inspirational. The childminder is highly skilled in following young children's lead and knows how to build on their interests. She uses trays with dinosaurs, sensory resources and paints. Children thoroughly enjoy developing their exploratory and creative skills and the childminder challenges them to develop early writing skills. She places high emphasis on learning through fun and play. This helps children to be enthusiastic and motivated. Young children show high levels of concentration when they roll sensory balls around. They delight when the lights flash and the childminder provides clear language to them to build on their communication. The childminder completes highly detailed observations of children's play. She uses this in partnership with parents to create precise assessments of children's progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are exceptionally well cared for. The childminder is highly responsive to their care needs and acts swiftly when she recognises they are tired. The childminder strives to build children's self-esteem and self-confidence. She provides a safe environment and teaches older children about respect and privacy. The childminder prepares nutritious meals for children. She ensures they have access to fresh air each day and actively promotes their good health. Standards of hygiene and cleanliness are very high and this helps to prevent the spread of germs. Young children's behaviour is extremely positive and they show increasing levels of independence as they attempt to feed themselves. The childminder supports them to follow instructions beyond the expectations for their age and uses highly effective, specific praise so they know what they are doing well.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are supported to make the best possible progress. Overall, they are working in stages higher than those typically expected for their age, including those children who are relatively new to the setting. Children are keen, active learners and show emerging confidence in their own abilities. Young children have very good social skills and are happy, cheerful explorers.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY539290
Local authority	Hartlepool Borough
Inspection number	10079286
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 3
Total number of places	10
Number of children on roll	10
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

The childminder was registered in 2016 and lives in the Seaton Carew area of Hartlepool, Cleveland. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She is registered to work with an assistant and to provide overnight care.

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