

Childminder report

Inspection date	11 January 2019
Previous inspection date	18 January 2016

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

This provision is good

- The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn and develop. She observes children as they play, and provides activities that motivate and interest them. All children make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder is warm and caring to the children in her care. She knows children very well and meets their individual care needs effectively. Children are very settled and happy in the setting.
- Children's behaviour is excellent. The childminder praises them frequently and they gain high levels of confidence and develop good self-esteem.
- Parents are extremely positive about the care their children receive. Overall, the childminder forms strong relationships with parents, and values their views and opinions. The childminder shares regular information with parents about the activities that their children enjoy.
- The childminder has a good relationship with local schools. They work together effectively to ensure a consistent approach to supporting children's learning.
- The childminder completes assessments of children's learning and monitors their progress. However, this information is not used consistently to extend children's learning further.
- The childminder does not collect detailed information from parents about what their children know and can on entry to the setting to enhance children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the use of the monitoring of children's learning and development to plan more precisely to extend children's learning
- gather more-detailed information about what children know and can do on entry to the setting to enhance their learning further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed the areas in the home used for childminding.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from written statements.
- The inspector looked at all relevant documentation, such as children's records, policies and procedures, and evidence of the suitability of those living on the premises.

Inspector

Melanie Vincent

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has completed recent training and she fully understands the procedures to follow if she suspects a child is suffering from harm. She ensures that herself and her assistant keep their knowledge and understanding of how to protect children up to date. The childminder evaluates the service that she provides. She identifies the positive impact on children's learning and where improvements need to be made. For example, she has introduced a mud kitchen outdoors to provide more opportunities for children to investigate and explore. The childminder makes good use of professional development opportunities. For instance, recent training has helped her to reflect and improve on the ways that she supports children in their mathematical development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder skilfully interacts with children during their play. She plans activities that take into account children's interests. The childminder ensures children have time to become deeply involved in their learning. Young children develop their literacy skills well. They choose favourite books and listen intently while the childminder reads. The childminder reads stories using good expression in her voice to capture and hold young children's attention. She encourages children to turn the pages in a book and join in with familiar phrases in the story. Children are helped to learn mathematical concepts, including numbers, shapes and space, when they play with their favourite toys. They enjoy joining in with favourite songs and using musical instruments to experiment with different sounds. The childminder encourages children to develop their understanding of technology and they learn how to operate simple devices.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children form very secure attachments with the childminder and her assistant. Children enjoy a huge variety of visits to local community groups where they meet with other childminders and their children. This provides children with many opportunities to socialise in larger groups and make new friendships. The childminder provides children with daily opportunities to be active and engage in physical activities. Children enjoy playing outdoors in the garden, going on outings and visiting the park. The childminder works with parents to encourage children to eat nutritious meals and snacks. She develops children's understanding of healthy lifestyles effectively.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are keen and enthusiastic learners. They explore the environment with confidence and make many independent choices in their play. Children communicate clearly and eagerly respond to simple questions and instructions. They are confident when making their needs known and independently manage their own self-care. Children confidently count and compare sizes of their toy cars and trains. They enjoy mark-making activities and learn important skills in preparation for learning to write. The skills that children acquire prepare them well for their next stage in learning, including the move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY290062
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	10062730
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 11
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	14
Date of previous inspection	18 January 2016

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in the Horden area of Peterlee, County Durham. She works with an assistant. The childminder operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3.

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Piccadilly Gate
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