

Childminder report

Inspection date	15 January 2019
Previous inspection date	29 August 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Met	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 works extremely well with other professionals, such as health visitors. She shares information to help ensure a shared approach to supporting children's learning.
- The childminder is committed to her own professional development. She is currently working towards a degree and this is helping her to review her provision. For example, she has strengthened procedures to review the progress of different groups of children and she has improved how she works with families.
- 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.
- The childminder supports children's communication and language effectively. For example, she listens carefully and repeats and extends what children are saying. She seizes opportunities to extend children's vocabulary or introduce new adjectives to them.
- Children make good progress. They are engaged and motivated to learn.
- The childminder has a very good relationship with parents. She uses a variety of methods to communicate with them. She ensures parents are well informed about where children are in their learning. Strategies, such as shared learning bags, help parents to understand how they can help their children at home.
- The childminder does not provide consistently high levels of support and challenge for the youngest children to help them make more rapid progress.
- The childminder does not always make the best use of all opportunities to support children's early writing.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide consistently high levels of support and challenge for the youngest children
- make better use of all opportunities to support children's early writing.

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 evaluates her provision and clearly identifies areas where she could develop her practice further. She seeks the views of parents and children and acts on any suggestions given. For example, following feedback from parents, the childminder has recently purchased more wooden resources. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good knowledge of signs and symptoms that may indicate possible abuse to children. She knows who to contact should she have any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder monitors children's learning and takes effective action, overall, when she identifies areas where further support is needed.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows children well. She uses her skills and knowledge effectively, overall, to plan enjoyable activities to support what children need to learn next. For example, she plans an activity with a farm yard and tractors to help children to talk about the different sizes of animals and to introduce sorting. Older children concentrate well as they explore the animals and learn about their different sizes. The childminder encourages children's independence. For example, she ensures her resources are easily accessible. Children confidently choose what they would like to play with. Children enjoy looking at books with the childminder. They demonstrate this as they select books from the inviting arrangement of books carefully placed around the childminder's home. They enjoy looking at illustrations and exploring different textured pages with the childminder.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop a good relationship with the childminder and other children. Older children seek out the childminder to give her cuddles. Younger children clearly feel secure in her care. They demonstrate this as they follow her wherever she goes. Children demonstrate a very good awareness of the rules and boundaries within the childminder's home. For example, when they accidentally throw something they pick it up and seek reassurance from the childminder. The childminder helps children to understand how they can support their good health. Children enjoy a range of healthy meals. They understand they must wash their hands before eating. Children enjoy playing in the childminder's spacious and well-equipped garden. Younger children also enjoy going for walks and visiting local soft-play centres.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. Children in receipt of funding make better than good progress, particularly in communication and language. They confidently use language to communicate their ideas and begin to ask simple questions. Children develop a good range of skills which prepare them well for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY475637
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	10083340
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Date of previous inspection	29 August 2014

The childminder registered in 2014. She lives in Stanley, County Durham. The childminder operates all year round, from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. She offers overnight care and works some Saturdays, when required. The childminder provides funded places for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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