

Childminder report

Inspection date	28 February 2019
Previous inspection date	5 September 2014

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 children have fun with the childminder and her assistant, who are sensitive, responsive and kind.
- The quality of teaching is good and children make good progress in their learning. The childminder and her skilled assistant have a thorough understanding of how children develop.
- Parents are actively encouraged to be involved in their children's learning and development. The childminder has highly effective systems in place for engaging parents and encouraging them to share what they know about their child.
- Children learn and play in a clean, safe and homely environment. The childminder has a good knowledge of the requirements of the early years foundation stage and how to protect children.
- The childminder has strong relationships with parents and other settings that children attend. This helps support continuity in children's learning and behaviour in the setting and home. Parents speak highly of the childminder and the service that she provides.
- Children have excellent opportunities to develop their social skills and learn about the world around them. They benefit from daily outings to toddler groups and community events where they mix with other adults and children.
- There is scope to strengthen the systems for self-evaluation to identify more clear plans for improvement and development.
- Children enjoy a rich variety of activities that effectively support their learning. However, plans for what individual children need to learn next are not consistently precise enough to help children make the best possible progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the systems for self-evaluation to identify more clear plans for improvement and development
- enhance the plans for what individual children need to learn next, to support children to make the best possible progress in their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas in the home used for childminding.
- The inspector spoke to one parent and took into account the written views of other parents.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at all relevant documentation, including children's records, policies and procedures, and evidence of the suitability of those living on the premises.
- The inspector evaluated an activity with the childminder to assess the impact of her teaching on children's learning.

Inspector

Julie Foers

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good understanding of statutory requirements. She completes regular training to keep her knowledge up to date, including attending child protection training. She monitors her assistant and meets regularly with her to help her reflect on her practice and responsibilities. Children benefit from a broad and balanced range of activities. They enjoy baking and art activities, and learn about celebrations, such as Chinese New Year. Effective policies, procedures and recording systems, alongside secure daily routines, help to keep children healthy and safe. Feedback from parents is very positive. Overall, the childminder reflects on her practice and is fully committed to the service she provides.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder regularly observes the children as they play and uses this information to help her plan future activities. Support for children's mathematical development is good. Children are encouraged to count how many items they have in their trolley as they play a shopping game. The childminder encourages children to discuss the colour and shape of toys and explore the patterns dominoes make. Children are well supported to develop their communication and language skills. The childminder comments regularly on what the children are doing and repeats words and phrases to help support their language development effectively. Children enjoy sharing books and playing with puppets with the childminder's assistant. They snuggle up to her as they read a story.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder and her assistant are very good role models and have lovely relationships with the children in their care. They warmly praise and encourage the children and effectively support their growing independence and self-esteem. Children's behaviour is very good. They enjoy rich opportunities for physical play and fresh air in the secure garden and on outings away from the setting. The children are encouraged to talk about healthy eating and are provided with a balanced range of meals and snacks. They enjoy meals out with the childminder in the local community as part of the planned weekly routine. The childminder keeps parents well informed of their children's care and learning daily. Children settle very quickly into the setting and are happy in the childminder's care.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are focused and engaged in their play. They choose what they want to play with and show enthusiasm for the activities on offer. Children play cooperatively for their age as they take turns at board games. They discuss the rules of the game and are supported to tidy up when finished. Children learn to use good manners and are encouraged to share. They are acquiring the skills that they need for their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY266104
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	10069296
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	19
Date of previous inspection	5 September 2014

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in the Murton area of Seaham in 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 qualification at level 3 and provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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