

Childminder report

Inspection date	6 March 2019
Previous inspection date	19 May 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 responds to children's interests and helps them to make good progress during their play. Children make choices about where they would like to learn and have good communication skills.
- Children have developed secure bonds with the childminder and her assistant. They are very caring, nurturing and highly responsive in meeting children's care needs. Children are confident to ask for the things that they would like to have and show high levels of self-confidence.
- Children take an active part in their own self-care and show an understanding of the importance of good hygiene. They independently brush their teeth, and the childminder gently reminds them to wash their hands after they have used the toilet.
- The childminder has developed effective partnerships with parents and other professionals. She shares assessment information effectively with other settings that children attend, such as schools. This helps to promote continuity of learning.
- During planned activities, the childminder's teaching is not sufficiently challenging to help children remain focused and develop their concentration. This does not help them to fully extend their skills.
- The childminder does not collect regular feedback from parents and children to help her drive forward continual improvements.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen opportunities for children to develop their skills fully during planned activities and ensure teaching is highly challenging to help maintain their focus and concentration
- enhance ways for parents and children to provide feedback on the overall effectiveness of the setting to help drive continual improvements.

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, her assistant and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including 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 written feedback from a parent and took account of their views.

Inspector

Michelle Lorains

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder regularly reflects on her knowledge and enhances her skills for working with children. She has effective network partnerships with other childminders from the local authority and this supports the exchange of information about best practice. For example, she has recently improved the ways to monitor children's progress using tracking methods. This helps her to ensure that children are meeting developmental milestones in every area of their learning. The childminder supports her assistant. She promotes his awareness of children's specific dietary requirements and regularly discusses with him the procedures to keep children safe. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder understands her responsibility with regard to wider child protection issues and can identify signs of potential abuse and neglect.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder and her assistant provide children with their full attention and are very responsive to their wishes. They know children's likes, dislikes and interests very well and use this information to prepare the stimulating environment. Children delight in listening to a range of stories. This helps to develop their communication and early literacy skills. The childminder asks children open questions about what might happen next and uses different voices to create excitement. She understands how to help older children to develop the skills that they need to start school. She prepares detailed assessments and provides teachers with her observations of children's learning when they move on, to enable all children to have the best possible start.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy, settled and confident in the childminder's setting. The childminder and her assistant provide a very warm, welcoming and safe environment for children where they can explore and feel secure. This has a positive impact on children's emotional well-being, and parents state they are very happy with the care that their children receive. The childminder gathers information from parents about children's specific routines and shares daily diaries with families. This helps to promote continuity. The childminder uses praise to help children understand the things that they have done well. Children's behaviour is very positive and they show an awareness of the boundaries and expectations that the childminder sets. The childminder regularly takes children on trips out of the setting. This helps them to develop their understanding of the world around them and build confidence in new social situations.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are working within the developmental stages typically expected for their age. They make good progress in relation to their starting points and show particular interest in listening to stories and using writing materials. Children develop very good social skills. They share resources willingly and are friendly, happy and curious to learn.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY359674
Local authority	Stockton-on-Tees
Inspection number	10073980
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	3 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	19 May 2016

The childminder registered in 2007. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She is registered to work with an assistant.

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