

Childminder report

Inspection date	6 March 2019
Previous inspection date	19 November 2015

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 carries out regular safety checks to maintain children's well-being while in her home. She risk assesses outings to identify potential hazards and minimise harm to children when out and about in the local community.
- Children of all ages acquire the skills and aptitudes in readiness for the next stage in their learning. The childminder knows individual children well. She plans a wide variety of interesting experiences to support what children need to learn next.
- The childminder and her assistant are fully aware of children's allergies and dietary requirements. Children follow effective hygiene practices, including handwashing procedures, to contribute to their understanding of good health.
- Children develop good mathematical skills. The childminder introduces them to number and quantity during everyday activities. For example, children use different amounts of money to pay for items in their role-play shop.
- Systems for monitoring the performance of the childminder's assistant are not fully effective to enhance her professional development and raise the quality of teaching even further.
- Even though the childminder evaluates her daily practice, she does not consistently include the views of children to enable her to continually improve her provision to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend ways to monitor the performance of the assistant so that they are precisely targeted on key areas of practice to strengthen teaching to an even higher level
- enhance evaluation procedures to include children's views and use these effectively to maintain continuous improvement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the childminder's home used by children and observed play and learning opportunities.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, her assistant and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at and discussed a range of records and policies and procedures with the childminder, including evidence of qualifications and the suitability of her assistant and all adults living in the household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written testimonials obtained by the childminder.

Inspector

Rachel Enright

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder is well qualified. She uses her skills efficiently to promote children's learning and development across all seven areas. The childminder attends network meetings alongside other childminders to extend her teaching and to enhance future practice. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder is knowledgeable about how to safeguard children and keeps up to date with wider safeguarding issues. The childminder's assistant is fully aware of what to do if she has any child protection concerns. She has a good overview of the policies and procedures for the childminding provision.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children build good communication and language skills. They comfortably engage in discussion and answer questions posed by the childminder and her assistant. Children are actively motivated and display confidence and focus during their activities. The childminder and her assistant encourage children to be independent. They sensitively join in with children's play at appropriate times to offer support and guidance. The childminder implements successful arrangements for observing and assessing children. These enable her to quickly narrow any gaps in their learning and development. The childminder establishes good partnerships with parents and supports them to continue their children's learning at home. She devises newsletters for parents to keep them updated about upcoming events and activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder involves children in group activities to foster their personal, social and emotional development. She places a good focus on children taking part in energetic play and exercise to extend their physical skills. The childminder has a strong knowledge of how to manage children's behaviour. She reinforces boundaries to children and talks to them about how their actions affect others. Children develop their own awareness of how to keep themselves and others safe, for example by learning about road safety. The childminder communicates effectively with teachers from local nurseries and primary schools. This helps to create a consistent approach and supports children's future transitions.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. They form firm friendships and interact positively with their peers. Children build their understanding of the world. For instance, they learn about different people and their occupations while they play with small-world resources. This is extended further as children explore how and why things work, for example as they use operational toys such as the shop till and fairground rides. Children thoroughly enjoy developing their imagination and begin to link their play to first-hand experiences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY367792
Local authority	Stockton-on-Tees
Inspection number	10066100
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 9
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	11
Date of previous inspection	19 November 2015

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Stockton-on-Tees. She works alongside 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 a childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education for two- and three-year-old children.

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