

Childminder report

Inspection date	20 March 2019
Previous inspection date	22 June 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 supports children's learning and development well, overall. She tailors activities to meet children's developmental needs and next stages in learning.
- The childminder provides a warm and welcoming home-from-home environment for the children in her care. She forms strong relationships with children. This helps them to feel emotionally secure and they settle well in her home.
- The childminder continues to develop and improve her knowledge to raise outcomes for children further. For example, she regularly shares ideas with other childminders and keeps up to date with current legislation.
- The childminder supports children's behaviour well. She helps them to take turns and listen well, for instance, when taking part in planned activities that involve all children. She calmly reminds children of her expectations and praises them for their efforts and achievements. This helps children to develop their confidence and self-esteem.
- Occasionally, the childminder does not maximise opportunities for children to experiment with making marks during everyday activities.
- Self-evaluation does not have the exceptional detail that helps identify ongoing priorities and plans to raise the provision to an even higher standard.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus teaching more precisely on supporting children to explore and build on their early writing skills
- enhance the way in which self-evaluation is used to help shape ongoing plans to raise the quality of the provision.

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
Eileen Grimes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder makes good use of her home to meet children's care and learning needs. She reflects upon children's assessment information and ensures resources and activities are easily accessible and supportive of children's learning and interests. She reviews their activities to help her adapt resources and provide different challenges. The childminder engages well with parents and has developed some aspects of how she works with them. She finds out about children's starting points and provides verbal updates about what children do each day. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a secure understanding of her responsibility to recognise and act on any child protection concerns she may have. This includes wider safeguarding issues to protect children from harm. She ensures parents are aware of and understand her safeguarding policy, to enable them to work together effectively.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is purposeful and children are encouraged to learn through developmentally appropriate play. The childminder uses themes that are of a particular interest to children to help develop their understanding of the world around them and help them achieve the next steps in their learning. Children's speaking and communication skills grow as they talk with the childminder, for instance, about the colours and names of the various trains in their imaginative play. Conversations, both planned and spontaneous, help extend children's understanding of new words and build on their increasing vocabulary. Children excitedly look at books with the childminder, retelling and laughing about the story.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are developing a good knowledge of being healthy and making positive decisions. They help to prepare and serve their own snacks, discussing their choices with the childminder. The childminder talks to children about the importance of eating a well-balanced diet and encourages them to try different fruits. Children have access to outdoor play on a daily basis. The childminder arranges trips to the local park, playgroups and other places of interest. Children are keen to help each other and have built secure friendships with their peers. This is supported by the calm, thoughtful and respectful childminder, who leads by example. She talks to children consistently, offering frequent praise and encouragement. This supports children's emotional well-being and self-esteem.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good rates of progress from their starting points and are well prepared for their next stages of learning and eventual move on to school. Children thoroughly enjoy sharing stories with the childminder and their friends. They develop their mathematical skills as they count out items to match a numbered card. Children delight as they use porridge and pretend it is snowing and investigate the differing textures as they add water.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY425475
Local authority	Hartlepool Borough
Inspection number	10074750
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Date of previous inspection	22 June 2016

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Hartlepool. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an a degree in early years and childhood studies. The childminder provides funded early education for three-year-old children.

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