

Childminder report

Inspection date	28 March 2019
Previous inspection date	31 May 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Good	2 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 develops strong emotional bonds with children from the start. Children are happy and settled. The childminder is caring and attentive to their needs. Children thoroughly enjoy the childminder's company and are eager for her to join in their play. They show confidence and high levels of self-esteem.
- The childminder plans a wide variety of stimulating activities and experiences for children that are well matched to their interests and needs. Children are excited to join in with activities and are keen to learn. They make good progress in their learning.
- Children understand routines and the behaviour that is expected of them. They follow instructions and wait patiently for their snack. During their play and activities, the childminder prompts children to take turns and share their toys. This helps children to build upon their range of social skills.
- The childminder supports children's communication and language skills very well. She talks with children as she introduces new words and models language. Children are confident and skilled communicators.
- The childminder has not found successful ways to engage parents consistently in her self-evaluation process to help identify further areas for improvement.
- The childminder has not yet established a highly focused programme of professional development to drive forward future improvements to raise the quality of the provision.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the self-evaluation process and involve parents more fully in identifying where aspects of the provision can be improved
- focus more precisely on developing a targeted programme of professional development that helps to ensure that high-quality practice is sustained and consistently improved upon.

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

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is aware of the potential risks posed to children and knows what action to take if concerns about a child's welfare arise. She understands how to escalate issues, if necessary, and has an effective safeguarding policy to inform her practice. The childminder implements procedures effectively to help ensure children's safety. For example, she completes robust risk assessments prior to outings. Overall, the childminder works well with parents. She encourages them to build on their children's learning at home and offers effective advice and support on issues, such as toilet training. The childminder considers the needs of children well when deciding priorities for development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder obtains good information from parents about their children and what they can already do when they start with her. She uses this to identify children's starting points in learning. The childminder has a good understanding of what children need to learn next to support their good progress. She is presently caring for young children and sensitively teaches them as they explore. For example, she encourages children to experiment with brushes to spread glue. This supports children's early writing skills. The childminder models counting as she stacks up blocks and helps children to understand concepts such as 'big' and 'small'. Children develop an excellent understanding and appreciation of books. They freely select from a wide range of books and sit with the childminder as they read these, identifying their favourite animals and linking sounds.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and settled in the care of the childminder, who is attentive to their needs. She understands when they are ready for their snack or are tired and need to have a sleep. Children are confident and relaxed in the company of visitors and happily interact with them. They are learning to enjoy nutritious meals and snacks and gaining competence in their self-care skills. For example, they know that they must clean their hands before they eat their food. The childminder encourages children to learn how to do things for themselves, such as helping to tidy activities away after use.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress. They are confident and enjoy participating in many different experiences. Children concentrate during self-chosen activities, such as reading and building towers. They are developing the key skills that will prepare them for school, when the time comes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	405440
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	10065208
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	6
Number of children on roll	11
Date of previous inspection	31 May 2016

The childminder registered in 1998 and lives in the New Hartley area of Whitley Bay. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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