

Childminder report

Inspection date	4 April 2019
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder's dedication and commitment to providing a high-quality service is exceptional. She strives to ensure she constantly provides all children with excellent care and learning opportunities. The outdoor play area is highly stimulating and provides a range of opportunities for all children to explore and investigate.
- The childminder meticulously monitors children's progress. She uses information from assessments to swiftly identify any gaps in learning and secures timely interventions for children who need additional support.
- The childminder and her assistant plan exciting activities that engage all children. They ask excellent questions that truly challenge children's understanding of stories. Children demonstrate superb listening skills and provide detailed explanations about characters and events in the story.
- Children build exceptionally close bonds with the childminder and her assistant. They are extremely happy and demonstrate that they feel safe. The childminder provides consistent praise and encouragement. Children become confident learners and display high levels of self-esteem. Their emotional well-being is extremely well promoted.
- The childminder has developed very strong partnerships with parents. She keeps them fully informed about what their child is working on and how they are progressing. The childminder provides a wide range of innovative ideas that parents can use to support their children's learning even further at home.
- Children of all ages concentrate on adult-led activities for a sustained length of time. For example, all children are delighted to make porridge for characters from a story. They confidently make detailed observations and notice changes as they mix ingredients.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to implement the highly effective programme of training and support for the assistant's professional development, to maintain the highest levels of practice.

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 and her assistant.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder and her assistant. 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

Amy Keith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Partnership working is an exceptionally strong aspect of the childminder's practice. Links with external professionals, primary schools and parents are very robust. The childminder has an outstanding knowledge of the early years foundation stage and other legislative frameworks. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder and her assistant have a very thorough knowledge of the possible signs, symptoms and indicators that might cause concern about a child's welfare. The childminder supervises her assistant's practice highly effectively. She monitors the quality of teaching and has robust plans in place to support her assistant's professional development even further to maintain the highest levels of teaching. The childminder frequently evaluates her practice and gathers the views of parents and children. She uses these when identifying areas that she can continue to develop, to enhance her practice even further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The well-qualified childminder is a highly experienced, skilled and inspirational teacher. She recognises the learning potential in all activities and uses her understanding of how children learn to provide rich, varied and imaginative learning experiences. Children rapidly gain excellent communication skills and interact confidently with one another as they play. Children benefit from opportunities to direct their own play. The childminder and her assistant know when to step back and allow children the opportunity to experiment and let their own imaginations enhance learning experiences. For example, children decide to go on a bear hunt in the outdoor area. They demonstrate superb physical skills and confidently draw upon prior learning as they retell familiar stories.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children's behaviour is exemplary. They follow instructions, cooperate with daily routines and are caring towards each other. Children say 'please' and 'thank you'. They consistently share and take turns. The childminder provides opportunities for children to develop their self-care skills extremely well. Older children independently put their coats and shoes on and demonstrate extremely high levels of perseverance as they learn to fasten their shoes. Children flourish in the exceptionally safe and secure learning environment. The childminder supports children closely as they learn to keep safe and to develop healthy lifestyles. For example, she has discussions with children about the benefits of eating fruits and following hygiene routines.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make excellent progress from their starting points. They rapidly develop the skills needed for their next stage in learning and for their move on to school. Children are highly motivated learners and fully engage in the extensive range of learning opportunities the childminder provides. Pre-school children recognise their names and concentrate exceptionally well as they learn to write them. They show high levels of interest in letters and the sounds they make and demonstrate excellent counting and problem-solving skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY545390
Local authority	Sunderland
Inspection number	10099449
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 13
Total number of places	10
Number of children on roll	19
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

The childminder registered in 2017 and lives in Barmston, Washington. She works with an assistant and operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder is a qualified teacher.

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