

Childminder report

Inspection date	26 April 2019
Previous inspection date	13 November 2015

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 reviews her provision to find ways she can continually improve. She regularly seeks the views of parents. Written comments and words, such as 'I genuinely wouldn't know what to do without her' and 'brilliant', are used by parents to describe their satisfaction with the service provided.
- High-quality information gathered from parents when children first start attending provides continuity in children's physical and emotional needs.
- The childminder has excellent partnerships with teachers in local schools where children also attend. She is proactive in obtaining information to support children's learning, especially those who attend after school.
- Links with external professionals, such as health visitors, are strong. The childminder actively shares information from the progress check for children aged between two and three years to develop a shared approach to meeting children's needs. Children make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder makes very good use of facilities in her local area to extend children's learning. Visits are made, for example to local woodland areas where children explore characters from their favourite story books.
- During some activities, the childminder does not consistently build upon the skills children need to learn next, to raise their achievements to an even higher level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consistently build upon children's next steps in learning to support them to make the best possible progress.

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
Nicola Jones

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has strong knowledge of child protection issues, including recent changes to current legislation. She keeps her skills updated regularly. For example, the childminder also works at a local school where she receives training and has opportunities to talk about effective safeguarding practices. She knows how to act and respond should she have any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder maintains a good overview of her provision, overall. She ensures most activities and experiences reflect where children are in their learning to promote their good progress. Good systems are in place to track the progress children make over time. The childminder analyses this information well to identify areas where children may require additional support, to narrow any possible gaps in their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder supports children's developing communication skills well. She sits alongside them as they play, using effective teaching strategies, such as making suggestions and asking questions. For instance, when children explored the dolls' house, the childminder asked them, 'What is the dog called?' and 'Shall we make some food for the dolls?' Children are keen to talk and begin to use sentences to describe what they are doing. The childminder skilfully incorporates mathematical skills into everyday play-based experiences. She uses words such as 'big' and 'little', and models how to count objects. The childminder encourages parents to take an active part in their children's learning. She shares children's ongoing achievements with them and welcomes their input when she completes her on-entry assessments.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a warm, welcoming environment for children. They are motivated and enjoy playing in the well-resourced toy room and garden areas. Children develop strong relationships with the childminder. Her consistent, high standard of care permeates through all activities throughout the day. For instance, the childminder uses a boxed structure where children can stand at the kitchen bench and take part in a variety of tasks. For examples, children help to prepare the fruit for their lunch. High levels of supervision are provided and children are kept safe at all times.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. They are curious, energetic learners who develop a wide range of skills and knowledge, in readiness for school. Children show a keen interest in books. They listen when the childminder reads them stories and enjoy exploring soft toys and puppets that support their understanding of the story. Children enjoy activities, particularly those outdoors. They investigate soil in the mud kitchen and explore sounds by ringing the bell attached to the childminder's shed.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY432206
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	10062719
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	13 November 2015

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Shildon, County Durham. She operates during term time on a Wednesday and Thursday from 7.15am to 6pm, and until 4pm on a Friday. During holiday periods, the childminder operates Monday to Friday from 7.15am to 6pm, except bank holidays and family holidays. She holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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