

Childminder report

Inspection date	2 May 2019
Previous inspection date	23 May 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children are wonderfully happy at the childminder's warm and welcoming home. They demonstrate high levels of confidence in their relationships with the childminder. Children seek the childminder out for cuddles and positive interactions. Tailored settling-in sessions help children to settle very quickly and well.
- The childminder provides a wide range of enjoyable activities and freely accessible resources that support children's development well. All children make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder works well with other settings attended by the children in her care. For example, the two-way sharing of information with nurseries is firmly established.
- Children behave extremely well in the childminder's home. They have exemplary manners and are exceptionally kind and helpful towards others. The childminder is a superb role model and is calm, caring and patient.
- Parents are very pleased with the quality of the provision provided for their children. They say that the childminder is constantly taking children on adventures. Parents highly value the many exciting outings and visits to groups that children benefit from while in the childminder's care. These opportunities help children to explore and find out about their wider community and to practise their excellent social skills.
- Effective systems are in place for reviewing the progress that children make from the start. The childminder tracks the achievements of children and identifies any areas where they may require additional support.
- The childminder regularly reflects on the quality of her provision and uses feedback from partners, including parents, to inform her decision making when considering any changes.
- The childminder's continued professional development is not yet targeted to further enhance the good quality of teaching to outstanding.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus professional development sharply to help raise the quality of knowledge and skills to consistently outstanding levels that promote the best possible outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and the impact of this on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector jointly evaluated an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including evidence of the suitability of adults living at the premises.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents expressed in written feedback.

Inspector

Cathryn Clarricoates

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder completes safeguarding training to keep her knowledge up to date. She understands how to recognise the signs and symptoms of abuse and what action to take in response to any concerns. The childminder uses risk assessment procedures effectively to monitor the safety of her home and visits into the local community. This helps her to minimise any hazards. Comprehensive policies are reviewed regularly and shared with parents from the outset. The childminder involves and engages parents in their children's learning. She gathers and uses information about children's activities at home. This contributes to a consistent approach to meeting the needs of children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows children's needs and interests well and provides stimulating activities that motivate them to learn. As a result, children are keen to try new skills and are enthusiastic and curious learners. The childminder uses her observations to carefully plan experiences to build on what children already know. For example, she provides a variety of resources, including shape cutters and a book about colours, to extend children's learning while they play with dough. Children practise their early mathematical skills as they count how many shapes that they have made from the material. The childminder asks questions expertly and models language skilfully, giving time for children to think and respond. This helps children to develop very good communication and language skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder supports children's physical health extremely effectively, for example, when following excellent hygiene procedures and providing highly nutritious snacks. Children frequently enjoy fresh air and exercise during wonderful trips in the local area, including to woodland, parks, beaches and farms. They mix with others widely at local playgroups, libraries and shops. This helps children to develop their superb understanding of the world around them. Children are helped extensively to share and take turns as a part of their daily routines. The childminder provides a wealth of specific praise and encourages children to persist impressively with tasks. She listens very carefully to children as they confidently choose the activities that they wish to take part in. Young children show that they are learning how to keep themselves safe. For example, they describe what to do if they need to evacuate the home in an emergency.

Outcomes for children are good

Children acquire the skills that they need for their future learning and the eventual move on to nursery and school. They show high levels of concentration in their play. Children listen intently to the childminder. They show an understanding of her expectations of them which helps them to manage their own behaviour very well. Those children who prefer to learn outside have frequent access to the outdoor area where they can explore many activities, including mark making with water, chalks and pens. This helps children to develop their early literacy skills. Children have plenty of opportunities to develop their excellent independence skills, such as while preparing snacks and helping to tidy up.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY478558
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	10076059
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	3 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	23 May 2016

The childminder registered in 2014 and lives in Spennymoor, County Durham. She operates all year round from 7.15am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for family holidays and bank holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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