

Childminder report

Inspection date	10 May 2019
Previous inspection date	30 September 2015

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 plans interesting, stimulating activities and experiences for children that support their learning well, overall. Children are confident learners who make good progress in all areas of their development.
- Children behave very well. They cooperate with each other and respond positively to the consistent messages the childminder gives regarding the expectations within her home environment.
- The childminder reviews children's assessment information thoroughly. This helps her to identify areas where children may require additional help and support, to narrow possible gaps in their learning.
- The childminder is committed to accessing professional development opportunities to further enhance her knowledge and skills. She meets regularly with other local childminders, which further supports her self-evaluation process.
- Good partnerships with local schools support children who attend the childminder's provision after their day in school. Information sharing is effective and helps to provide continuity in children's care and learning.
- The childminder does not consistently build upon what children are interested in as they play and incorporate the skills they 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:

- build upon children's emerging skills and interests as they play, to support them to make the best possible progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors 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

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder keeps her knowledge of child protection issues up to date and knows who to contact should she have any concerns about a child's welfare. For instance, a comprehensive list of relevant telephone numbers is kept on the wall of the playroom. The childminder carries out ongoing risk assessments to ensure the equipment and main areas children access are safe. Self-evaluation is good. The childminder reviews and reflects upon many aspects of her provision. She gathers the views of parents in a variety of ways, such as using questionnaires. Parents show high levels of satisfaction and are complimentary in their comments. Parents say: 'The childminder is caring, dedicated and enthusiastic and devotes herself to the children in her care.'

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified childminder supports children's learning well, overall. She works from a highly stimulating playroom where children confidently explore and direct their own learning. For example, children thoroughly enjoyed playing in a tray of dried cereal. They used toy construction vehicles to carry and tip the cereal and engaged well in imaginary play. The childminder supported some aspects of children's learning well as they played. Techniques such as providing an ongoing commentary about what children were doing, and explaining concepts further, helped children to extend their communication skills. The childminder keeps parents updated with their children's learning. For example, daily conversations help to maintain a two-way flow of information to support children's ongoing learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder is an experienced and well-qualified childcare practitioner. She adopts a kind, caring approach and develops strong relationships with the children in her care. Children are equally happy. They are developing as confident, motivated learners who clearly enjoy the time they spend with her. Children develop positive friendships with each other. They have fun and play games, such as hide and seek, inside the playroom. The childminder supports children's good health. Balanced, nutritious food is provided at snack time and children enjoy fresh air daily. Good quality information is gathered from parents when children first start attending. The childminder ensures information, such as any medical needs or allergies, is obtained to provide consistency in the care children receive.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. The skills and knowledge they develop provide a good foundation for when they start school. Children are effective communicators. They talk confidently as they play, sharing their ideas with each other. Children use number names accurately during activities. They make comments, such as 'I've got two', when they sort objects and have two of the same colour.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY320947
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	10062706
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	3 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	12
Date of previous inspection	30 September 2015

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Spennymoor, County Durham. She operates all year round from 6.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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