

Childminder report

Inspection date	5 June 2019
Previous inspection date	17 August 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 provides a well-organised environment where children are highly valued. She offers a range of stimulating resources and plans activities that interest and challenge children of all ages. Children show good levels of concentration as they play and they make good progress.
- The childminder is kind and welcoming. She develops close and secure relationships with the children and their families. Children are happy and settled in the childminder's care.
- Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder works closely with them and there are effective arrangements to share details about children's learning. This shared approach promotes continuity between their home and the childminder's setting.
- The childminder has good relationships with the local nursery and school staff. She communicates regularly with them to share information and to provide continuous emotional support for transitions.
- The childminder provides children with regular opportunities to mix with other groups of children. This helps them to gain confidence, develop good social skills and extend their knowledge and understanding of the diverse lives, cultures and backgrounds of people in the wider world.
- The childminder does not always give children enough time to solve problems to support their thinking skills.
- At times, the childminder does not use the correct pronunciation when teaching children the sounds of letters.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance teaching skills further and consistently use effective strategies to extend children's problem solving and thinking to the highest levels
- make better use of opportunities to teach children the correct sounds for letters.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities 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 and took account of the views of parents through written feedback.

Inspector
Lynne Pope

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder ensures she and her assistant have an up-to-date knowledge of current requirements. The childminder understands her responsibilities to keep children safe. She has a good understanding of the local procedures to follow to report any concerns she has about a child's welfare. The childminder is keen to keep her skills and knowledge up to date and relevant. She attends meetings with other childminders, does research on the internet and takes part in training. The childminder makes the most of knowledge gained. For example, she has improved how she teaches children to count in the correct order. The childminder uses effective methods to enable her to accurately monitor and assess children's progress. She understands how children learn and is skilled at supporting their interests.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses regular observations, including those from parents, to plan activities to meet individual needs and interests. The activities planned promote creativity and exploration. For example, children explore pasta and lentils. They have great fun pouring the lentils and scooping them back up. They go on to use the pasta to form the letters in their names. The childminder teaches children about the names of different shapes. For example, when she shows them a round shape, they say it is a circle. Children become confident in expressing themselves and use their imagination well. They build with blocks and happily speak to visitors to say what they have made.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder is a positive role model who shares her clear expectations for good behaviour. She speaks calmly and kindly to children and helps them to learn about good manners, sharing and taking turns. Children understand the boundaries that she sets and are keen to help put the toys away before getting something new out. This supports children's emotional well-being. Children enjoy healthy meals and the childminder teaches them about making healthy choices. They benefit from regular fresh air and exercise in the childminder's garden and the local area.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain the skills they will need to help them towards their next stage of learning and eventual move to school. Children have a natural curiosity which is nurtured and encouraged. They show an eagerness to learn and embrace new activities. Children become increasingly independent. For example, they take off their own clothes and shoes and put on their nursery uniform. They are very proud to demonstrate how they put their coats on successfully.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY416495
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	10062715
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 9
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	12
Date of previous inspection	17 August 2015

The childminder registered in 2010 and lives in the Consett area of County Durham. The childminder works with an assistant. She operates all year round from 7.15am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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