

Childminder report

Inspection date	6 June 2019
Previous inspection date	15 October 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 and her assistant provide a wide range of age-appropriate activities and experiences for children. Overall, teaching is good. This helps children to make good progress in their learning.
- Self-evaluation is good. The childminder reviews her provision well to help identify ways she can continually improve the service she provides. The views of parents are sought in a variety of ways, which supports the reflective process even further.
- Relationships are strong. Children quickly settle into the home of the childminder and her assistant, and they are very well cared for.
- The childminder makes good use of professional learning opportunities to help improve the quality of her practice. Additional activities, such as attending local network meetings, supports this further.
- The childminder and her assistant help children to develop an understanding of age-appropriate rules and boundaries within their home. This supports children's positive behaviour and keeps them safe.
- The childminder is often so keen for children to learn, she does not always allow children time to explore resources themselves and direct their own learning, to raise their achievements even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide even more opportunities for children to explore and lead their own learning, to raise their achievements to an even higher level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- 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 has strong knowledge of child protection issues and knows how to respond should she have any concerns about children's welfare. She works alongside her husband, who is her assistant, and together they provide a safe, secure home where children are protected from harm. Ongoing training ensures the childminder has the most up-to-date knowledge about safeguarding. She shares this information with her assistant, which helps to maintain a joint approach to supporting children. Good systems are in place to review children's progress. The childminder uses information gathered from children's observations and assessments to identify any areas where children may require additional support or challenge.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, children are supported well in their learning and development. The well-qualified childminder sits alongside children on the floor and supports their developing communication skills effectively. For instance, when very young children pick up objects, the childminder says, 'Here is the green cup'. She makes eye contact with children and repeats words they attempt to say. The childminder keeps parents up to date with the progress their children are making. Opportunities such as daily conversations and sharing children's learning journals are used well and help parents share in their child's learning. Parents are highly complimentary about the service provided by the childminder and her assistant. They say their children 'come on in leaps and bounds' and 'always love to attend'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

High standards of care are provided within a warm, welcoming and friendly home environment. The childminder and her assistant place children's safety and welfare at the heart of everything they do. High-quality information is gathered from parents when children first start attending. Information such as sleep and feeding routines is obtained and ensures children receive continuity in the care they receive. The childminder is sensitive and recognises when very young children need to rest. She follows their routine, placing them either in a cot or on the sofa where she supervises them very well as they sleep. Children's health is supported well. For instance, they are provided with fresh, home-cooked food and enjoy playing outdoors in the fresh air on a daily basis.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. The skills they develop provide a good foundation for when they start school. Children are developing as effective communicators. They begin to babble, point to things they are interested in and try to repeat words spoken to them. Children begin to develop an awareness of shape. They hold different sized shapes in their hands and try to push them through the holes in the shape-sorter box.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY439953
Local authority	Stockton-on-Tees
Inspection number	10072019
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	15 October 2015

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Stockton-on-Tees. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She works with an assistant.

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