

Childminder report

Inspection date	10 June 2019
Previous inspection date	28 July 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder and her co-childminder have established very effective partnerships with parents and other professionals. They use a range of strategies to ensure an effective two-way exchange of information, which helps to support good continuity of care and learning.
- Children are extremely happy and well settled in the childminder's home. The childminder provides a very warm and welcoming environment. She has formed exceptionally strong bonds with all children, who freely approach her for cuddles and reassurance. Children behave extremely well.
- The childminder provides frequent opportunities for children to socialise with others. For example, they regularly attend groups and enjoy exciting outings to beaches, woodland, farms and parks. This helps them to find out about their wider community and understand more about the world around them.
- Children greatly enjoy their time at the childminder's home. They explore confidently, make independent choices and are learning to play cooperatively with each other. Children have a wealth of fun in their learning and are making good progress in their development.
- The childminder does not consistently focus her planning extremely precisely to challenge children to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the use of the accurate assessments to focus sharply on planning for children's future learning, to help them to achieve the highest outcomes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas of the premises used for childminding.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder, her co-childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact of this on children's learning. She jointly evaluated an activity with the childminder and her co-childminder.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including evidence of the suitability of adults living and working in the household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by speaking to them on the day and through viewing written feedback provided.

Inspector

Cathryn Clarricoates

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a thorough understanding of her role and responsibility to keep children safe from harm. She knows the possible signs of abuse and neglect, and understands wider safeguarding issues. She demonstrates a secure knowledge of the procedures to follow if she were to identify any concerns about children's safety. The childminder keeps her knowledge up to date and in line with current guidelines and legislation. For example, she completes a range of training, including accessing early years websites and forums. The childminder works closely with other local childminders. This enables her to share ideas to enhance children's experiences. The childminder and her co-childminder reflect on their provision and identify clear areas for improvement, using feedback from parents and children to guide them. They are strongly committed to providing the best possible care for children of all ages.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, the childminder monitors and tracks children's development effectively to help to identify and address any gaps in their learning. Children demonstrate their curiosity and motivation to learn, for example, when they use magnifying glasses to examine model bugs. The childminder is an impressively positive role model. She praises and encourages children as they play, which helps to develop their concentration to investigate further. Children are willing to have a go at new play experiences. The childminder knows children well and follows their interests. For example, children enjoy kicking a ball to the childminder and she then shows them how to throw and catch.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder carefully tailors settling-in sessions to suit individual children. She meets children's emotional needs very well. The childminder has an excellent understanding of children's likes, dislikes and routines. She ensures that her comprehensive knowledge is updated as children grow and develop, for example, through daily discussions with parents. Children thrive in the care of the nurturing childminders. They quickly learn to share and take turns, and consistently show excellent manners. Young children are developing their independence skills exceptionally well. Some examples of this are when they wash their hands thoroughly before eating and eagerly help to tidy up after activities. Parents highly value the appetising and nutritious meals and snacks provided. They also compliment the childminders about the frequent access to fresh air and exercise that their children enjoy.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, are developing the skills that they need in preparation for their future learning and the eventual move on to nursery and school. Children practise their early mathematical skills as they count model snakes in a large nature display. They learn about 'bigger' and 'smaller' objects when they compare the sizes of model bugs. Children develop their early literacy skills, such as when they search for the initial letter of their name in a tray of rice. Children form firm friendships and show great kindness and respect for others.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY343692
Local authority	Hartlepool Borough
Inspection number	10106487
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	28 July 2015

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Hartlepool. She operates all year round from 8.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-year-old children. She works with her daughter, who is also a registered childminder.

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