

Childminder report

Inspection date	12 July 2019
Previous inspection date	18 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder is extremely kind and caring. Children form strong bonds with her. They are exceptionally happy and settled in her care.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary, and they play cooperatively together. The childminder is a highly positive role model. She helps children to learn about good manners, sharing and taking turns.
- The childminder provides children with consistent and targeted praise and encouragement which helps to raise their self-esteem. This supports children's emotional well-being wonderfully well.
- Partnership working with parents, other early years settings and professionals is strong. This supports continuity of care and good outcomes for children.
- The childminder supports the development of children's speech effectively. For example, she gives children an ongoing commentary about what they are doing. She skilfully asks questions to encourage children to practise their conversational skills.
- Children enjoy a wide range of activities and outings. Parents comment that children are 'constantly outdoors and learning new things'. Children benefit from a wealth of opportunities to socialise with others and to find out about their wider community.
- The childminder does not focus her professional development sharply on raising the quality of teaching to support the very best outcomes for children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the professional development programme and use the knowledge gained to help to raise the quality of teaching even further.

Inspection activities

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

Inspector

Cathryn Clarricoates

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder implements risk assessment procedures to help to maintain the safety of the environment, indoors and outdoors. Comprehensive policies and procedures are shared with parents. This contributes to a consistent approach to meeting the needs of all children in the childminder's care. The childminder completes safeguarding training to keep her knowledge up to date. She reflects well on her practice and evaluates the setting accurately. She takes account of feedback from parents and children to inform decisions about any changes.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder carries out ongoing observations and assessments to find out where children are making good progress and what they need to do next. She involves parents in their children's learning and exchanges information with them regularly. The childminder knows children's interests and plans activities that motivate them to learn. For example, children enjoy mixing oats with water to investigate changes to the texture. The childminder weaves mathematical language into children's play activities. She provides children with different sizes of bowls and spoons and cards representing chairs and beds to illustrate the story of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. The childminder introduces comparisons of quantity and encourages children to practise counting one, two, three. The childminder links this learning to literacy as she sings a song and provides children with access to a picture book version of the fairy tale. Children have fun and often lead their play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder uses carefully tailored settling-in arrangements to help children to settle extremely quickly and well. For instance, she visits children in their homes. The childminder gathers highly detailed information about children's care, routines, likes and dislikes and abilities. She uses this information to meet children's needs meticulously from the start. The childminder supports children's physical development and understanding of a healthy lifestyle very successfully. Children benefit greatly from plenty of daily exercise and fresh air. They help to care for plants growing in the outside play area and delight in tasting fresh strawberries and peas straight from the pod. The childminder provides nutritionally well-balanced snacks and meals. Children develop a marvellous level of independence skills. For example, they prepare their own fruit for snack. Children explain to the childminder why they need to wash their hands before eating. They show an impressive understanding of the simple rules and boundaries set by the childminder. Children demonstrate that they feel a very strong sense of belonging, such as when they approach the childminder for a cuddle.

Outcomes for children are good

Children show significant levels of concentration in play that stimulates them. They are able to listen and understand, which helps them to manage their own behaviour superbly. Children's progress is good as they acquire the skills that they need for their future learning and eventual move on to nursery and school. They form firm friendships with others. Children are kind and respectful towards each other.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY334027
Local authority	Hartlepool Borough
Inspection number	10106475
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	14
Date of previous inspection	18 August 2015

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Hartlepool. She operates all year round from 6.30am to 6pm Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for children aged three and four years.

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