

Childminder report

Inspection date	23 July 2019
Previous inspection date	13 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 supports the development of children's communication skills effectively. She plays at children's level and provides a running commentary for their activities. The childminder plans times during the day when she reads stories and sings songs with children.
- Children learn the importance of using good manners and sharing resources. They behave well and demonstrate friendly, close relationships with the childminder and with each other. Children are happy and settled and show a strong sense of belonging in the childminder's home.
- Partnerships with parents are effective. Parents value opportunities to exchange information with the childminder about their children's experiences and achievements. This helps to support a consistent approach and children's good progress.
- Children enjoy frequent enjoyable outings into the wider community, for example, to farms, museums, parks and playgroups. They learn to socialise with others and find out more about the world around them.
- The childminder has not identified a precise professional development programme to help to enhance her good teaching skills further.
- The childminder does not consistently use information from observations and assessments 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:

- target the continued professional development programme on raising the standards of teaching further to achieve even better outcomes for children
- enhance the use of information from observations and assessments to focus planning for children's learning precisely.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed an evaluated activity with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including evidence of the suitability of adults living in the household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents expressed in written feedback.

Inspector

Cathryn Clarricoates

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a secure knowledge of her role in helping to protect children from possible harm. She understands the procedures to follow in response to any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder works closely with other local childminders. This enables her to exchange ideas and share practice generally. The childminder takes into account the views of parents and children when considering making changes to improve her provision. Parents appreciate the wide range of activities that their children experience at the childminder's home and elsewhere. The childminder understands the importance of working in partnership with other settings and professionals.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder reviews children's progress regularly to identify and address any gaps in their learning. She is a positive role model. The childminder praises and motivates children as they play. This helps to develop children's confidence to explore and 'have a go'. She skilfully follows children's interest in books. For example, children enjoy investigating the contents of a sack containing props to illustrate a story. They dress up as characters from the well-known tale. The childminder introduces new words and repeats these clearly to help young children to extend their vocabulary. Children practise their early mathematical skills as they count the number of chairs, bowls, spoons and bears. The childminder compares the different sizes of these objects to help children to understand concepts such as 'big', 'medium' and 'small'. She asks children to identify the colours of the utensils and knows when they need help with tasks.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder collects information from the start about children's routines, likes, dislikes and dietary needs. She establishes simple rules and boundaries so that children are clear about her expectations. Children are developing their independence skills. For example, they clean their hands before eating and feed themselves fruit at snack time. The childminder works closely with parents to address children's self-care needs. For instance, she provides them with effective support with young children's toilet training. Children approach the childminder readily for a cuddle and reassurance. They enjoy plenty of fresh air and exercise as they play outside and go for walks locally. The childminder involves children in growing plants to take home or donate to organisations in the community. This process fosters their understanding of the world.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are developing well in preparation for their future learning and the eventual move to nursery and school. They have good concentration skills for their age. Children listen intently as the childminder reads to them and point to pictures in books when asked. They practise making marks with chalk on a blackboard in the garden. This helps to develop their early reading and writing skills. Children make independent choices and cooperate well together as they play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY343700
Local authority	Hartlepool Borough
Inspection number	10106488
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	13 August 2015

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Hart, Hartlepool. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3.

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