

Childminder report

Inspection date	12 August 2019
Previous inspection date	13 May 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Good	1 2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder has an excellent knowledge of the early years foundation stage. She is extremely skilled in using a wide range of different teaching strategies to promote children's development. All children make exceptional progress, especially in their communication and language development. They thrive in this outstanding setting.
- Children form exceedingly close and trusting relationships with the committed and dedicated childminder, who responds to their every need. They receive high levels of excellent guidance and sensitive support from her.
- The childminder performs highly effective self-evaluation that takes into account the views of children and their parents. She is passionate and highly committed to excellence and maintaining her exemplary practice.
- The childminder's quality of teaching is exemplary and she makes sure that each child makes the best possible progress while in her care. She makes highly detailed and thoughtful observations of children's learning. The childminder uses these to very successfully identify and plan for what children need to learn next.
- Children's communication and language skills are promoted exceptionally well. The childminder expertly uses her conversational skills to promote children's thinking and listening skills, and to encourage them to express themselves.
- The learning environment is highly motivating, attractive and very well organised. The childminder ensures that children have the time and freedom to choose their own play. The outdoor area is particularly effective in allowing children to fully investigate the world around them.
- There is an extremely strong partnership with parents. The childminder ensures that she involves parents in all aspects of their children's care and learning. Parents are extremely complimentary about the care their children receive. They state that the childminder is amazing and passionate about her role, and that she provides unique and creative experiences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to access professional development opportunities to maintain outstanding practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed the areas in the home used for childminding.
- The inspector jointly evaluated an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at all relevant documentation, including children's records, policies and procedures and evidence of the suitability of those living on the premises.
- The inspector considered the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Melanie Vincent

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a very detailed knowledge of how to keep children safe. She has an excellent understanding of how to monitor and report any concerns. The childminder is extremely motivated and successful in the way she drives her professional development. She makes superb use of information from training and research, and uses what she learns to greatly benefit the children. For instance, recent forest school training has very successfully helped the childminder to extend children's learning outdoors. The childminder has clear and insightful plans in place to continually develop her already excellent setting. For example, she plans to continue to enhance her professional knowledge to maintain outstanding practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder provides children with rich educational experiences across all areas of learning. Her quality of teaching is first class. The childminder enthusiastically involves herself in children's play. She encourages children to explore and find things out for themselves. Children clearly delight in exploring and investigating the wide range of spaces and resources. Younger children very imaginatively use open-ended, creative and natural materials. They explore pouring water down ramps and look for insects with magnifying glasses. The childminder encourages children to investigate materials and how they change. They experiment with spray bottles, warm water and tools to try to melt ice. Children develop their early literacy skills when they recognise their names on cards when they arrive at the setting and self-register. The childminder provides very comfortable and cosy areas, inside and outdoors, to encourage children to develop a love of books.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Promoting children's emotional well-being is of the utmost importance to the childminder. Children demonstrate excellent levels of self-esteem and confidence. Their behaviour is excellent. The childminder encourages children to recognise and name their emotions at every opportunity. Children talk about their families and experiences, and learn more about other people's lives. After a recent holiday, children bring in photographs of places they have visited, such as chateaus in France. The childminder displays these pictures and encourages children to follow their interests in castles. Children freely check-in with a 'family box' which contains photographs of their families. The childminder very successfully encourages children to make healthy choices and they enjoy growing fruit and vegetables in the garden. Children delight in checking if the tomatoes they have planted are ready to eat.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Young children show very high levels of independence in their self-care skills. They learn to put their boots on, wash their hands and chop their fruit at snack time. Children freely explore in the outdoor environment. They experiment in the mud kitchen and investigate the natural world. Children become very curious, inquisitive and highly motivated learners. They are extremely confident, self-assured and are eager to learn. Children acquire the skills they need to be ready for school or the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY379863
Local authority	Stockton-on-Tees
Inspection number	10106367
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	13 May 2015

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Stockton-on-Tees. She operates all year round from 7.45am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years degree. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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