

Childminder report

Inspection date:

3 December 2019

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children are extremely motivated learners. The childminder provides exciting and innovative activities. For instance, children conduct a scientific experiment with bicarbonate of soda and coloured vinegar. They are very inquisitive and intrigued as they mix the ingredients together. The childminder demonstrates how to use a pipette. Children develop a can-do attitude as they watch and replicate the childminder's actions. Furthermore, the childminder expertly introduces some descriptive words such as 'fizzing', and 'popping'.

Children's behaviour is impeccable as they play alongside each other. They share resources and take turns extremely well. The childminder is highly knowledgeable about children's individual needs and current stages of development. The childminder and her assistant have high expectations for every child, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). The childminder carries out frequent observations and robust assessments of children's learning and development. This ensures that activities are expertly tailored to children's individual needs. For example, the childminder swiftly introduces scissors to a play dough activity to provide further challenge for the children. The childminder is particularly skilled at knowing when to intervene and when to let children solve their own problems. Children's language skills are supported extremely well. Children relish listening to their favourite stories. Older children ask the childminder lots of questions and she expertly answers them, providing new words to extend their vocabulary.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder and her assistant are very effective role models. They demonstrate an excellent example of how to treat others with respect and kindness. As a result, children are incredibly supportive and considerate to their peers. Children's behaviour is excellent. They show exceptionally high levels of cooperation between each other. Children, including those with SEND, are very well supported. The childminder has high expectations of all children in her care, encouraging them to do things for themselves. They are encouraged to become incredibly independent in their personal care routines. Children are extremely well prepared for their next stage in learning and for the eventual move on to school.
- Children have excellent opportunities to develop their physical skills. They use small-muscle control very confidently as they manipulate a range of utensils. For example, children develop focus and concentration as they use tongs to move pieces of popcorn and try to thread them onto string. Furthermore, the childminder arranges a great number of outings to places of interest in the local community. Children particularly enjoy visiting the beach and going to see

wildlife at the local bird and mammal centre. These visits enable children to develop their knowledge of the world around them.

- The childminder and her assistant provide superb opportunities to develop children's mathematical thinking. For example, they use a variety of containers and tubes to collect popcorn in. The assistant encourages the children to count and estimate how many pieces will fit into the containers. She then challenges the children to find the corresponding number.
- The childminder has particularly strong links with other settings that children attend. She works closely with them, providing them with regular information about the children's progress. She seeks feedback from them about children's interests and uses other settings' planning so that together they can successfully promote continuity and consistency in children's learning.
- The childminder evaluates her service effectively. She is dedicated to extending her professional development through training and researching online. She attends an array of training to increase her knowledge and understanding and further support the children in her care. For example, she attended an emotional well-being course to give her an insight into how to support children during the settling-in period. Furthermore, the childminder plans to support her assistant to deepen her knowledge of how children think and learn through play. The childminder regularly shares good practice and information with other childminders to develop her practice continually.
- The childminder has established excellent relationships with parents. She keeps parents regularly informed about how their children are progressing. Parents are delighted with the exceptional progress their children make. They comment that their children are 'incredibly happy to attend' and they have 'many different learning opportunities'.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an extensive and secure knowledge of safeguarding. She is fully aware of her responsibilities, including making sure her assistant remains suitable to work with children, and she understands her role in protecting children. The childminder ensures that both she and her assistant keep up to date with regular training. Furthermore, they are very confident of what to do in the event of an allegation being made against them or a member of the household. The childminder has an exemplary understanding of wider safeguarding issues, including the signs and symptoms that may indicate a child may be at risk of being drawn into extreme behaviours or ideas.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY265966
Local authority	Stockton-on-Tees
Inspection number	10117060
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	19
Date of previous inspection	3 August 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2003 and lives in Yarm. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a level 3 qualification and works with an assistant. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Julie Campbell

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the childminder, her assistant and the children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- An activity was completed by the assistant and evaluated by the inspector and the childminder.
- The inspector read some written feedback from parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector reviewed records, including suitability checks of those living and working in the childminder's home.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact it has on children's learning.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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