

Childminder report

Inspection date: 10 December 2019

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder's gentle and nurturing approach means that children really enjoy coming to play and learn. She provides a bright and stimulating learning environment, indoors and outdoors. Children can choose what they want to play with easily, which helps to promote their independence. With a strong interest in trains, children bring additional engines and other vehicles into their play. The childminder makes sure that all risks to children are minimised, enabling them to be safe from harm.

Children are happy, settled and keen to learn. They appear emotionally secure as they enjoy familiar routines and receive praise for their efforts. For example, children know how to use the step stool to be able to wash their hands at the sink. The childminder has high expectations of how children behave and of what they can do. She consistently promotes good manners, helping children to be polite when they talk to others.

The childminder is knowledgeable and well informed. She is a good and positive role model and provides a safe place where children can thrive. She puts the child at the heart of everything that she does. This means that children have many opportunities to fully develop their own interests and to learn new skills.

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

- The childminder is warm, open and friendly. She gives children the chance to count objects, name basic colours and tell her what is going to happen next. The childminder is aware of children's different ways of thinking and learning. For example, children line up trains, side by side, and delight in recognising different numbers on their engines. The childminder promotes children's mathematical skills further as they proudly answer which one is the 'biggest' and the 'smallest'.
- The childminder has a deeply caring attitude as she cares for the children. She sits alongside them as they play, helping to keep them interested. Children behave extremely well for their age. In turn, they learn to be respectful of others and of the resources they use. The childminder talks to children about what they are doing. However, she sometimes misses opportunities to ask them questions, to help increase their knowledge and use of new words.
- Children eat healthy and nutritious snacks. They enjoy eating together, as a social occasion. The childminder sits with the children and talks to them, supporting them if they need help. For example, she shows them how to shake the container to loosen cut slices of cucumber that are stuck together. This means that children are confident and are developing a 'can-do' attitude towards things that they try to do.
- The childminder's teaching is good. She watches what children do on a regular

basis, noting down how they are improving. Children are making good progress in all areas of their development, in relation to their starting points. The childminder thinks about what they then need to do, as individuals, to make more progress. She uses their interests to plan further challenging activities and experiences. This helps every child to develop the skills they need for future learning.

- Parent partnerships are strong and effective. The childminder shares information on a daily basis about what their children have done and learned. This means that parents are positive and value her provision. They comment favourably on the support she gives children and say that 'children have blossomed under her care'. However, she does not always take the opportunity to give relevant information to parents about how they can extend their children's learning in the home environment. The childminder shares information about children's learning with staff from local nurseries and schools. This ensures that the care that children receive is as consistent as it can be.
- The childminder values the importance of outdoor play. Children have plentiful opportunities to enjoy the fresh air, take risks and go on outings in the local community. They smile as they stroke animals at the farm and are excited to run around in fallen leaves in the park.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder ensures that her safeguarding training is up to date and knows why it is important to protect children from extreme views and behaviours. She knows the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect and has a good understanding of the local safeguarding partnership's procedures. She knows what to do and who to contact if she has a concern about a child. The childminder's home environment, both inside and outside, is securely maintained. She pays very careful attention to any potential dangers while the children are playing and during activities and routines.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide and extend opportunities for children to increase their vocabulary and raise their achievements to an even higher level
- focus on ways to provide specific information to parents, to enable them to promote and extend their children's learning in the home environment.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY367052
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	10062712
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	3 to 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	1
Date of previous inspection	9 July 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Carrville, Durham. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. She offers funded education to three-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lois Wiseman

Inspection activities

- The childminder explained to the inspector how she organises her provision and supports children's learning.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to children at appropriate times during the inspection and talked to the childminder about how she manages her provision.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.
- The inspector looked at children's records, evidence of suitability and a range of other documentation, including policies, training certificates, public liability and car insurance documents.

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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