

Childminder report

Inspection date: 20 May 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy in this nurturing environment. The childminder is kind and attentive towards the children, who receive cuddles and reassurance when needed. This helps them to feel safe and secure in the childminder's care. Children are given plenty of time to explore and they enjoy their time at the setting. They are motivated to play and spend time persisting with activities to learn new skills. There is a broad range of interesting activities for the children to choose from indoors and outdoors. For instance, children enjoy being creative. They have fun when they choose a range of resources to make marks on the paper. Children experiment and discover that the wet tissue paper can make colourful marks. They make good attempts to use the tweezers to carefully transport pom-poms into various cups. This helps children to strengthen their smaller hand muscles.

Children are given time to work out problems themselves. They show perseverance and work out that in order to manoeuvre the doll's buggy into a small space they first have to move the balance beams. Children use their imagination as they re-enact familiar experiences, such as caring for the dolls and taking them for a walk in the buggy.

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

- The childminder has developed a curriculum that is ambitious for what children can achieve. She uses information gathered from parents, together with her own observations, to plan continuously to build on what children already know and can do.
- The childminder provides children with a wealth of experiences outside her home. For example, they take regular trips to the toddler group and play alongside a wider group of children. They also visit places to view birds and local woodlands. This helps children to develop their social skills, confidence and an awareness of the world around them.
- The childminder joins in children's play. She shows a genuine interest in what children say and do and shows that she respects their views. She supports children's speech and language development well. She engages children in many conversations to help to extend and build on their communication skills. However, occasionally, the pace at which she poses questions is too quick for children to absorb what is being asked and to allow them to respond.
- The childminder has high expectations for children's behaviour. She models expected behaviour, including good manners, kindness and respect for others. This helps children to learn how to treat others and make positive relationships.
- Children are supported to learn how to live a healthy lifestyle. They enjoy healthy snacks and meals, and the childminder supports them to have a positive attitude towards eating. Children happily play outdoors, where they access fresh

air and exercise.

- The childminder helps children to develop a love of books. Children sit together, discuss their favourite stories and talk about what they can see in the pictures.
- The childminder understands how to teach children mathematics and skilfully weaves this into their play and routines. For example, younger children count how many pom-poms they have collected in the pots. However, on a few occasions, she overlooks opportunities to offer children even greater challenge, to extend their learning even further.
- Parents speak highly of the childminder and the care that their children receive. They say that their children are making good progress. Parents are happy with the range of information they receive about their children's learning and the ideas for what they can do to support them at home.
- The childminder evaluates her provision accurately and strives to deliver the best outcomes for children. She has a clear overview of her strengths and can identify areas for further development. This helps her to continually promote the interests of all children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is clear about her responsibilities to ensure that children are protected from harm. She has attended additional training to ensure her knowledge is up to date. The childminder demonstrates a secure knowledge and understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse. She knows the reporting procedures to be followed in the event that she has child protection concerns about a child. The childminder has a good understanding of risk assessment, which keeps children safe. She closely supervises children in her care to meet their needs effectively.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- consider how children's learning can be extended even further, to provide additional challenge and to help them achieve the highest levels of progress
- ensure that the pace at which children are asked questions is not too quick for them to absorb what is being asked.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY321498
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	10229511
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	17
Date of previous inspection	1 December 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Consett, County Durham. The childminder operates all year round from 7.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke with the children during the inspection and took account of the views of parents from the written feedback provided.

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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