

Childminder report

Inspection date: 22 June 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	Inadequate
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are very happy and well settled in this experienced childminder's home. They are active learners who have fun while exploring the play environments, inside and outdoors. The childminder encourages children to explore and investigate. For example, during a mark-making activity on whiteboards, children draw their portraits and families. They thoroughly enjoy trying to write with more than one felt pen and notice that when the colours mix together, they have created new colours.

The childminder is a good role model and has clear expectations for children's behaviour. Children respond very well to the consistent praise and encouragement they receive. They are tolerant, respectful, kind and polite.

There is a strong focus on developing children's communication and language. For example, pre-school children talk about their new schools and teachers. The childminder encourages them to discuss what they will do there. She uses good questioning skills to help them recall past activities. She asks, 'What is it called when something metal sticks together like that? Can you guess? It starts with an 'm'?' Children think hard and reply 'magnet' and use good vocabulary to explain how they work. This helps children remember and understand new words. Children communicate well together and make good progress from their starting points.

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

- Since the last inspection, the childminder has been supported by the local authority and has worked hard to make improvements. She has built on her knowledge of the current requirements and has addressed all previous actions and recommendations. She has a strong commitment to helping maintain children's good outcomes to give them the best possible start she can.
- The childminder understands how children learn and has improved her daily planning. She provides a wide range of activities which are based on children's interests and needs. Children are motivated and challenged during their play. However, there is scope for the childminder to focus even more on the strength of her questions to extend children's learning even further. This is particularly the case for more able children.
- A key focus of the childminder's curriculum is to support children's emotional well-being effectively. The childminder is sensitive to the needs of children and provides them with warmth, support and encouragement. This has a positive impact on their emotional well-being, and they develop high levels of self-confidence.
- Children are learning about healthy lifestyles. They understand the importance of hand washing before snack, after being outside and after using the toilet. The

childminder talks about the healthy foods they are eating, explaining how it makes them grow strong. She helps them understand the benefits of regular exercise, and makes sure they enjoy many regular trips to local parks and activity centres.

- The childminder skilfully introduces children to mathematics as they engage in their play. For example, children independently compare and enthusiastically discuss the various sizes and widths of their constructions, towers and models. Children count to big numbers often, just for fun, and challenge each other to count even further.
- The childminder has close links with local schools and pre-schools. She makes sure children are gaining the skills and attitudes that prepare them well for future learning. Children listen thoughtfully and carefully to others and learn to follow instructions diligently. For example, at mealtimes, children help get everything ready. They demonstrate good independence and manage their self-care needs very well. They know to drink lots of water because it is good for them, and it is a hot day.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. They say the childminder is 'kind, patient and fantastic' and that she has created 'a caring, loving environment' where their children thrive. The childminder updates them regularly on their children's progress and how this could be extended at home. However, some parents want even further guidance on how to do this successfully.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has renewed all areas of safeguarding to ensure her knowledge is current. She is alert to possible indicators of when a child may need help and knows the relevant agencies to contact for guidance. The childminder is aware of the duty to prevent children from being drawn into situations that put them at risk, and other wider safeguarding issues. For instance, she understands the signs and symptoms of domestic abuse and the impact this can have on children's lives. The childminder has reflected on every area of her provision, including local outings, to identify even the smallest risk. She helps children learn how to behave to keep themselves and their friends safe, and how to look after resources appropriately.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- challenge children to develop their communication and thinking skills even further by using effective questioning to encourage children to describe, share thoughts and give explanations
- improve partnership working with parents to ensure they are aware of children's targeted learning plans and how these can be promoted at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	312502
Local authority	South Tyneside
Inspection number	10233343
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	1 to 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	10 March 2022

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1992 and lives in the Hebburn area of South Tyneside. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded education for three-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jan Harvey

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the provision.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the curriculum had been implemented and the impact that this has had on children's learning.
- The childminder and the inspector carried out a joint observation during lunchtime.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including a paediatric first-aid certificate, and discussed safeguarding and professional development with the childminder.

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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