

Childminder Report

Inspection date	29 July 2015
Previous inspection date	20 July 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children progress well in their learning and development in relation to their starting points because the quality of teaching is good.
- The childminder and the children have established a very close and secure relationship between them. She knows the children well and effectively promotes their emotional well-being, confidence and self-esteem.
- Children are very confident and very independent in managing their personal care needs, and they learn how to play well together. This helps to prepare them in readiness for the next stage in their learning.
- The childminder's knowledge and understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements are thorough. She regularly updates her training, and as a result of this children are kept safe and protected from harm.
- The well-qualified childminder evaluates her provision, which enables her to identify what to do to bring about continuous improvement.
- Partnerships with parents, other settings and other professionals are firmly established. Everyone works together to support children's individual needs, therefore, their care, learning and welfare needs are effectively met.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always make use of all opportunities to further support children's understanding of mathematical concepts and associated language.
- The childminder does not always provide opportunities for children to talk about significant events, or to recognise and describe special times they have enjoyed with her and their family.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- raise children's good level of achievement by supporting and extending their understanding of mathematical concepts and associated language in their play
- provide more opportunities for children to talk about significant events in their lives, and to recognise and describe special times they have enjoyed with their friends and family.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing in the living room, dining room, kitchen and the garden outdoor play area.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and the children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a tour of the premises.
- The inspector discussed the activities completed by the childminder during the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and her family members living on the premises, the children's records in hard copy and on computer, the policies and procedures, and discussed the monitoring process and evaluation systems that support the service.

Inspector

Carys Millican

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The childminder is experienced and well qualified. She has a good understanding of how children learn and the Early Years Foundation stage. Therefore, children are supported in their learning and make good progress in relation to their starting points. The childminder provides a child-friendly environment with safe and secure indoor and outdoor play spaces. Children move freely from one area to another, confidently choosing what they would like to do. Activities meet their interests, therefore they are enthusiastic and motivated in their play. Observations and assessments are focused and accurately show what children need to learn next. Children's communication and language is supported as children play. However, opportunities to extend conversations to help children to recall activities, past events and friends and family, are less well promoted. The childminder reinforces some mathematical concepts, such as numbers, size and shape. However, opportunities to further extend this area of learning, such as developing calculating, comparing and understanding weight, are not used with maximum effect.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Children develop good physical skills. They enjoy plenty of fresh air and exercise while playing outside and through visits to the beach and local parks. Children follow basic routines and demonstrate good self-care skills. They are further supported to choose healthy snacks and meals. Their relationship, developed with the childminder, is very strong. Her caring, nurturing, supportive nature is exceptional. Children listen carefully to her and are very well behaved. They benefit from clear routines and rules which encourage them to share, to be kind and caring towards each other. Children can make their own choices about their play and gain in independence. They are becoming active learners who are confident to try out new activities and learn about their community and other people in the world. These activities help to prepare them for their move on to the next stage in their learning.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The childminder meets the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has a secure knowledge of safeguarding and what she should do if she has any concerns about a child. The childminder minimises risks by carrying out regular safety checks. This helps to protect children from harm. She continuously reflects on the service she provides for parents, and attends additional training to constantly improve the quality of her practice. The childminder regularly takes into account the views of parents and children who contribute to evaluation process. The childminder works tirelessly to support the families she cares for. She communicates regularly with parents and provides them with ideas to help with their child's learning at home. Partnerships with other settings and other professionals are excellent. The childminder works closely with all those associated with the families and together they ensure that children are effectively supported at all times.

Setting details

Unique reference number	403055
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	855433
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	20 July 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1996 and lives in Ashington, Northumberland. She operates from 8am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. She holds a relevant qualification at level 3.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
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