

Childminder Report

Inspection date	19 April 2016
Previous inspection date	17 May 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The qualified childminder gets to know her children well so that she has a clear picture of their interests and abilities. She identifies what children need to learn next and plans appropriate ways to help them make good progress in their learning and development.
- The childminder has created a stimulating environment. She has a wide selection of high-quality resources which reflect the diverse world in which we live. Children eagerly explore their surroundings, select resources independently and make decisions about their play.
- The childminder builds positive and caring relationships with children. She is warm and attentive to their needs, which helps them to feel secure.
- The childminder engages parents exceptionally well. She keeps them regularly updated on their child's learning and development. The childminder sends home learning packs of activities to assist parents in continuing their children's learning at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Initial information gathered from parents about their child's learning is not detailed enough to identify what children know and can already do.
- The childminder has not kept up to date with a programme of professional development that focuses on raising the quality of her teaching to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the information that parents contribute about what their child knows and can do when they start at the setting
- extend the programme of professional development and raise standards in teaching and learning even higher.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation and evidence of suitability.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of parents' verbal and written views.

Inspector

Lynne Pope

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder understands her responsibility to keep her safeguarding knowledge up to date. She knows how to recognise the possible signs and symptoms of child abuse and who to report any concerns to. This helps to protect children from harm. The childminder makes regular checks so that her environment remains safe, which effectively supports children's health and welfare. Overall, the childminder regularly self-evaluates her provision and has a good capacity to improve her provision further. She is confident about her strengths and areas that need improvement. The childminder has excellent relationships with other settings that children attend. She values the importance of sharing learning and development information and children benefit from a shared approach to their care. The childminder has developed successful strategies to track the progress children make. She understands how to identify and support children who might not be making expected progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn. She observes and plans interesting activities that children enjoy and that motivate them to engage. The childminder understands how to reshape and adapt activities to support children's interests and help them to develop through play. Children's early writing and words and letters skills are promoted well. The childminder models the correct pronunciation when children recognise letters in a jigsaw and helps them to understand which letters are in their name. Craft activities involve two-year-olds in making marks with their fingers and four-year-olds start to write letters. Children learn about different shapes in fun ways. Children drive toy cars round large shapes, developing their fine motor skills and understanding of the shape.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder promotes children's good behaviour. She provides constant praise and consistent reassurance to enhance children's well-being. Children learn to take account of each other as she gives guidance about sharing resources. The childminder understands the important role she plays in promoting healthy lifestyles. She provides nutritious and balanced meals and snacks and she encourages children to be active. Children make their own choices about what they want to eat from picture cards and the childminder discusses healthy choices with them. The childminder regularly takes children out to the park and for walks where they enjoy and connect with the natural world around them.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and development. They are motivated and eager to try out new experiences. Children are independent and are acquiring self-help skills. For example, they competently put on their shoes before going outdoors. Children's communication skills are developing well. They chat to the childminder as they play and are developing good conversational skills. Children gain the key skills necessary for future learning and are prepared well for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY421808
Local authority	Hartlepool
Inspection number	852260
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	17 May 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Hartlepool. She operates all year round from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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