

Childminder report

Inspection date	5 April 2019
Previous inspection date	29 October 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

- Children are happy, motivated and develop good levels of confidence with the childminder. They enjoy a wide range of activities that support their development well, overall. Children make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder works extremely well with other professionals also known to children. For example, joint meetings take place between the childminder, health visitor and parents to complete the progress check for children aged between two and three years. This provides a joined-up approach to supporting children's care and learning.
- Effective systems are in place to review the progress children make over time. The childminder tracks how children are progressing towards the early learning goals and identifies any areas where they may require additional support.
- Children behave well in the childminder's home. Gentle, consistent reminders are provided throughout the day of age-appropriate expectations and boundaries.
- Parents are delighted with the quality of the provision. They say, 'We couldn't be happier with the care you provide, we know our child is being well looked after'.
- The childminder does not consistently build upon what children are interested in as they play and incorporate the skills they need to learn next to raise their achievements to an even higher level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build upon children's emerging skills and interests as they play, to support them to make the best possible progress.

Inspection activities

- 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 to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Nicola Jones

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is committed to obtaining the most up-to-date information from her Local Safeguarding Children Board. This ensures she knows how to act and who to contact should she have any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder has a strong knowledge of signs or symptoms that may indicate a child is at risk of harm. Effective risk assessments are in place. The childminder checks all areas of her home, indoors and outdoors, to ensure they are safe for children to access. Doors to the property are locked and secure when children are present. The childminder reflects upon many aspects of her provision to identify ways she can develop further. She demonstrates a strong drive to enhance her practice and improve her skills. For example, she attends training courses and carries out her own research to extend her learning. Occasionally, the childminder works with an assistant. She ensures he keeps skills, such as paediatric first aid updated and any changes regarding safeguarding children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified childminder supports children's learning well, overall. Children who speak English as an additional language are supported particularly well to develop their communication skills. The childminder works closely with parents to obtain key words, which she incorporates into daily activities. Good opportunities are provided for children to explore and investigate. For example, the childminder set up a large builder's tray full of sand and other resources, such as a bowl of water, diggers and jugs. Children filled the jug with water and transferred this to the sand tray. The childminder skilfully asked questions, such as 'Where has the water gone?' to extend children's thinking further. Parents take an active part in their child's learning. The childminder keeps them updated with the progress their children are making and invites parents to share what children have been learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a high standard of care. She works very closely with parents to share information about children, to ensure she meets their physical and emotional needs. The childminder places high priority on supporting children's good health. For example, children enjoy daily opportunities to play outdoors in the well-resourced garden area. Furthermore, children eat healthy, nutritious snacks and drink water throughout the day. Children develop strong relationships with the childminder. They demonstrate this when they sit close to her to look at picture books and when they are comforted by her.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. The skills and knowledge they develop prepares them well for their future learning in school. Children show an interest in making marks with pens and pencils, beginning to hold them using the correct grip. They enjoy listening to stories read to them by the childminder and concentrate for increasing lengths of time.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY385896
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	10062714
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 12
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	14
Date of previous inspection	29 October 2015

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Consett. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Thursday and Friday only, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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