

Childminder report

Inspection date: 31 March 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy, settled and comfortable in the childminder's home. They have formed close and warm relationships with the childminder, who is attentive to their needs. This helps children to feel safe and secure in her care. Children independently choose and select toys from boxes stored on low-level units in the designated playroom. They experience a range of activities that help them to develop their social skills. For example, they go on bus trips to visit shops and the local library with the childminder. They enjoy regular walks, where they learn about the local areas and talk about nature.

Children behave very well. Young children begin to understand the need to follow instructions. They are continuously engaged in fun activities. For example, they have fun while they play with play dough in a range of ways. They use their hand muscles and coordination to grip the dough, roll and squeeze it. Children begin to use one-handed tools to push into the dough. They enjoy sharing books with the childminder. They snuggle onto her knee and relax as she engages them in their favourite stories. She involves the children by asking questions about what they can see in the pictures.

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

- The childminder has made improvements to her provision since the last inspection. She has a sound knowledge of child development. She uses her knowledge effectively to plan interesting activities, which take into account children's interests and meet their individual needs. The childminder promotes children's next steps well and shares ideas and activities with parents for how to extend their learning at home. As a result, children make good progress in her care.
- The childminder promotes communication and language well. She adapts the language she uses so it is appropriate for each child's level of understanding. For younger children, the childminder uses new words to help increase their understanding while she does the corresponding actions. For example, as children play with the play dough, the childminder uses words such as 'squash' and 'squeeze'. She speaks clearly with children. She uses her good questioning skills to help them contribute their own thoughts and ideas.
- Children are developing into curious and independent learners. Because the resources and activities are matched well to their interests and abilities, they focus hard on what they are trying to achieve. For example, younger children keep trying as they learn to complete simple insert puzzles.
- The childminder promotes healthy lifestyles. Children have opportunities to be physically active, outdoors and on various day trips. The childminder follows good hygiene routines, which ensures that children stay healthy and free from

the risk of cross-infection. Children are provided with fresh drinking water throughout the day and have nutritious snacks, such as fresh fruit. The childminder endeavours to work with parents to ensure that children have access to healthy lunches. Children learn about good oral health and the importance of brushing their teeth.

- The childminder provides some learning opportunities to teach children about various cultures and traditions. However, she has not yet fully explored how to help children learn about the similarities and differences between themselves and others.
- The childminder demonstrates a clear commitment to improving her knowledge and skills. Since registration, she has completed a variety of training courses. However, she has not taken the time to evaluate the knowledge gained and the impact of this on her practice and the outcomes for children.
- Parents speak very highly of the childminder. They say they receive up-to-date information about their child's learning and progress. Parents say their children are happy and developing well and that the childminder cares for them well. The childminder shares information about children's progress with the other settings that they attend and complements and extends their learning. She provides children with a firm foundation on which to build their future learning and skills.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder attends regular safeguarding training to ensure that her understanding of how to protect children from harm is up to date. She understands potential signs and symptoms that could indicate that a child is at risk of harm or neglect. She talks confidently about the steps she would take should she believe a child's safety is at risk. She understands the procedures she must follow in the event of an allegation being made. The childminder makes routine checks in her home to ensure that it is safe for children to attend. She ensures that her paediatric first-aid certificate is kept up to date.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- review and reflect on the knowledge gained from training and its impact on everyday practice and outcomes for children
- enhance opportunities for children to learn about differences between themselves and others in society, to strengthen their awareness of diversity.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2570088
Local authority	Middlesbrough
Inspection number	10242968
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 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	17
Date of previous inspection	26 April 2022

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2020 and lives in Middlesbrough. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. She holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in her evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors 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 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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