

Childminder report

Inspection date:

16 March 2023

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive in the childminder's care. They build strong, secure foundations for future learning and have excellent levels of self-confidence. The childminder is enthusiastic about providing children with the highest standards of care and learning. Children benefit from a rich, varied curriculum which broadens their experiences and deeply engages them in their learning. For example, they thoroughly enjoy trips to the museum to explore the dinosaur exhibition. The childminder extends their learning back in the setting, using books and a range of resources. Children use excellent language skills to describe the features of the dinosaurs. They tell the childminder that they can use the book to find the facts and name the dinosaurs.

The childminder prioritises children's emotional well-being. She gathers and shares detailed information from parents and focuses on supporting children's personal, social and emotional development. This helps her to minimise the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and children have exceptional social skills. Children demonstrate they feel safe have strong relationships with the childminder and each other. They show an increased understanding of their emotions and are very kind to each other. The childminder maintains excellent partnerships with parents and families. Children are enthusiastic to share their home adventures with 'Bobby the bear'. They delight in showing the group their pictures and talk about where they have taken Bobby.

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

- The childminder is inspirational and provides children with the best possible start in their learning. She regularly accesses professional development opportunities, which helps her to support children. For instance, the childminder has developed her knowledge of how to extend children's vocabulary through their play. All children, including those with lower starting points, make excellent progress in their communication and language development.
- Children show enthusiasm and excitement in their learning. They are consistently keen to explore and willing to develop new skills. The childminder introduces new vocabulary into each activity and ensures that children have plenty of opportunities to try new things. For instance, she models how to use a magnifying glass when children are searching for 'bones' in the dinosaur dough tray.
- The childminder provides an interesting range of experiences to build on children's awareness. For instance, children develop an excellent understanding of the world around them. They visit the local community centre to try different foods and become immersed in other cultures and traditions.
- Children develop a love of books and enjoy trips to the library on a weekly basis.

They show excitement at story time and listen intently as the childminder reads. The childminder has a range of core books for children to become familiar with. She provides parents with stories to read at home. This helps to consistently develop children's early literacy skills.

- Parents and families are very happy with the provision. They say that their children are thriving in the setting and look forward to attending every day. Others say that their child's well-being, safety and development are in the best hands. Parents feel that their children are well prepared for the next stages in their learning and that activities are tailored towards school readiness.
- The childminder understands the importance of building on children's existing knowledge. For example, she uses children's interest in the outdoor allotment to extend and develop their skills. Children show the inspector a range of different birds and can describe their features. They know how to use the computer to find a picture of their favourite bird and then settle down to copy this in their drawing.
- Children have an exceptional understanding of what it means to live a healthy lifestyle and make healthy choices. They discuss how fruit is important for your bones to grow and talk about why you may get plaque on your teeth. Children wash their hands and thoroughly enjoy singing the song they made up themselves.
- Children's behaviour is consistently exemplary. They demonstrate an advanced understanding of their emotions and talk about why they feel excited and why they feel calm. Older children are very patient with young children and offer them help during activities. The childminder is an excellent role model for children. She uses specific praise to help children know what they have done well.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder prioritises children's safety. She has a robust understanding of the local authority child protection procedures and knows how to identify, record and report any concerns. For instance, the childminder is aware of the signs of potential abuse, such as the impact of domestic violence or neglect. The childminder ensures that her assistant understands what to do if she has concerns about a child. She provides regular safeguarding training and has clear policies to follow. Children show a clear understanding of how to stay safe. For instance, they talk about the knives they use to cut fruit and why they cannot have the adult knife.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2596505
Local authority	Sunderland
Inspection number	10251409
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	2 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2020 and lives in Silksworth. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder occasionally works with an assistant. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Michelle Lorains

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in her evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- A joint observation was carried out by the childminder and the inspector during a planned indoor activity.
- The inspector held a discussion with childminder in relation to the leadership and management of the setting. She looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of recruitment, qualifications and the childminder's and her assistant's suitability to work with children.
- The childminder gathered feedback from parents for the inspection.

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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