

Childminder report

Inspection date: 30 January 2025

Overall effectiveness	Good
------------------------------	-------------

The quality of education	Good
--------------------------	-------------

Behaviour and attitudes	Good
-------------------------	-------------

Personal development	Good
----------------------	-------------

Leadership and management	Good
---------------------------	-------------

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable
--	----------------

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy and settled at this friendly and welcoming setting. They concentrate well as they play imaginatively with dolls and toy trucks. The childminder is patient, caring and kind. She builds strong and respectful relationships with children. Children have lots of fun and obviously enjoy the childminder's company. The childminder encourages children to play well together and to use manners. Children learn to share and take turns as they investigate with toy bolts and screws. They focus well and are fully engaged in their play.

The childminder provides good support for children's development. She provides creative suggestions for children to extend their learning and activities. The childminder encourages children to think of their own ideas and follows their lead in play. There is a very strong emphasis on children being and learning outdoors. Children benefit from daily fresh air and exercise in the spacious, enclosed garden and through walks around the local area.

The childminder praises children's achievements and provides lot of encouragement. This helps to increase children's confidence and self-esteem. Children are clear what they are being praised for and enjoy receiving stickers to celebrate their achievements. Regular daily routines help children to feel secure and develop their independence. Children take off their own coats and shoes, put away their water bottles and wash their hands. There is strong support for children's well-being. The childminder helps children to learn how to keep themselves healthy and safe, through good hygiene routines for example.

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

- The childminder ensures that children are comfortable and ready to learn. She is able to identify where children are in their development and how to support their next steps in their learning.
- There is good support for children's developing communication and language skills. The childminder talks to children as they play, so that they hear lots of language. She asks children questions that encourage a more detailed response. The childminder leaves plenty of time for children to think about their ideas.
- The childminder supports children's physical development well. Children climb, swing and balance on equipment outdoors. They develop coordination as they make marks with pens and twist toy bolts into place.
- Overall, there is good support for children to manage their behaviour. The childminder has realistic expectations and provides good safety messages. However, the childminder does not consistently explore with children how their behaviour might impact on the feelings of others.
- The childminder teaches children first hand about their local community and the

natural world, such as through walks to a local quarry. Children enjoy nature walks where they gather natural objects and pretend they are 'treasure'.

- Children enjoy rich opportunities to learn about nature through outdoor activities and gardening. They plant vegetables, explore with mud and enjoy digging in the garden.
- Parents and carers have high praise for the childminder and the setting, which they describe as a happy and safe environment. They say they feel well informed about their children's day and praise the childminder for the creative activities and learning opportunities she plans for their children.
- The childminder has strong links with the local school. This helps to support children when they move from the setting on to school or the next stage of their learning.
- The childminder understands the importance of working with other professionals in education and health involved with children in her care, including children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. This helps to create a consistent approach to support for children's learning.
- The childminder has a positive attitude towards her continuous professional development. She has identified further training on child development to enhance her knowledge and improve her practice still further.
- The childminder reflects well on experiences for children and has a positive attitude towards continuous improvement. She is committed to providing a happy and positive experience for children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- develop opportunities to explore with children the impact of their behaviour on the feelings of others
- continue with professional development to enhance knowledge and raise the quality of practice further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2692047
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	10260021
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 1
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	0
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2022. She works from the premises of her co-childminder in Bishop Middleham. The childminder operates all year round, Tuesday to Thursday, from 7.30am to 5.30pm, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She offers government funded childcare.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Julie Foers

Inspection activities

- The childminder discussed with the inspector the setting's curriculum and how she organises and plans experiences for children.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder how she helps to keep children safe. This included evidence about first-aid training and suitability of those living on the premises.
- The childminder and inspector reflected on an activity together. The inspector observed the quality of education during activities and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector took the views of a number of parents into account.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2025