

Childminder report

Inspection date: 6 August 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 very content in the childminder's homely and nurturing environment. Children show high levels of confidence as they search for the resources they need to lead their own learning. The childminder is a very caring person. She automatically recognises individual children's needs and responds quickly. For example, as younger children show they are tired, the childminder holds them closely and talks in a soothing and comforting voice.

The childminder knows exactly what children can do and what children need to learn next. She offers children a curriculum that provides them with experiences that best support their future learning. For example, to enable babies to become confident walkers, she offers a wide range of sturdy resources babies can push. The childminder uses her spacious outdoor environment to encourage children to practise walking, balancing and manoeuvring across different levels and surfaces.

Children behave well for their very young ages. They are learning to share and take turns. Children take notice of the childminder as she reminds them to have 'kind hands'. Children respect the childminder's environment. They happily tidy toys away as they finish playing with them. Children bring real-life experiences into their play as they source mops to sweep the floor.

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

- The childminder knows to speak slowly and clearly to children. She pronounces words correctly and gives children time to respond. Very young children readily demonstrate their early communication skills. For example, as children drop what they are playing with onto the floor, they say 'Oh oh'.
- Should children be unable to source the resources they need, they are sufficiently self-assured to approach the childminder for help. This enables children to become confident and curious learners. For example, very young children show the childminder they want to play with water. Children giggle with delight as they jump into the water and the water splashes them.
- The childminder and children count together as they build with blocks. She encourages children to count slowly and reminds children to stop counting when they use their final block. They talk together about blocks being 'big' and 'small' and that each block makes their tower higher. This helps to encourage children to bring mathematical language into their own play.
- Children have many opportunities to go out and about in the local community. The childminder attends a variety of different groups and regularly meets with other childminders. This enables children to further develop their emotional well-being as they build relationships with many adults and children outside of their own families.

- Parents are very complimentary about the service the childminder provides. They appreciate how much care the childminder takes in making her home a welcoming, safe and fun environment. They welcome the daily exchanges of information about children's routines.
- The childminder ensures all her mandatory training is up to date. She independently accesses further training to support her practice. For example, she is confident to recognise when to stand back and let children lead their own learning and when to intervene to extend children's play.
- The childminder reflects on her practice and environment. She recognises what is working well and what she can do to improve her provision. For example, the childminder is considering further development to her already extensive outdoor environment with the addition of a mud kitchen to offer children even more opportunities for imaginary and sensory play.
- When children move away from their play or quickly lose interest in what they are doing, the childminder is not consistent in encouraging them to return to their activity. This does not help to enhance children's concentration skills or extend their motivation to learn.
- The childminder provides children with a healthy and varied diet. She ensures that food given to children with specific dietary needs is monitored. However, the childminder does not always remember to wash children's hands before eating. This is not enabling children to develop their understanding of keeping themselves healthy.

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:

- encourage children to return to activities when they leave to further develop concentration skills
- ensure children develop their self-care and hygiene skills and their understanding of keeping themselves healthy.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2778025
Local authority	Redcar and Cleveland
Inspection number	10413878
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 2
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 2024 and lives in the Normanby area of Middlesbrough. She opens Tuesday to Thursday from 7.30am until 5.30pm, all year round, with the exception of bank holidays and family holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Denise Charge

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas of the premises and outdoor area where childcare is provided. She also viewed and discussed the available resources.
- Interactions between the childminder and children were observed and the inspector evaluated the quality of education being provided.
- Evidence of the childminder's suitability and the suitability of all people living on the premises were checked by the inspector.
- A joint observation of an activity was carried out with the childminder.
- The written view and opinions of parents were taken into account during 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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