

Childminder report

Inspection date: 4 April 2025

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children thrive in the childminder's care. They thoroughly enjoy their time in her home. Children demonstrate this as they laugh as they give the childminder presents of vegetables hidden in boxes. They have great fun mixing play vegetables and toy cakes in the boxes to make funny cake combinations. Children have a very good relationship with each other. They play together happily as they play in the toy kitchen or look at books together. Older children ask other children to look at books or do jigsaw puzzles together. Parents and carers say the childminder is loving, trustworthy and compassionate. They comment their children enjoy going and particularly enjoy the engaging and fun activities.

The childminder talks to children about how they can keep themselves safe online. She discusses with them about things that are appropriate for their age. The childminder teaches older children about using devices safely. Children behave well. They follow the childminder's instructions carefully. For instance, children quickly tidy up in preparation for going outside. The childminder's curriculum is generally ambitious. For example, she supports children to count objects accurately, recognise numbers on a clock face and talk about colours.

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

- The childminder knows what children are interested in and plans activities to support children's interests. For example, the childminder provides activities with farm animals to support a recent farm visit and to support children's interest in this. This helps children to develop positive attitudes to their learning.
- Children thoroughly enjoy the interesting activities that the childminder plans. During the inspection, they are keen to find all the toy dinosaurs outside. Children are fascinated as they discover a toy dinosaur's skeleton in the sand. They dig to try and find more and try to piece the skeleton together.
- The childminder talks to children about how they can keep themselves healthy. For example, she talks to them about the importance of using sun cream in warm weather. The childminder teaches children about the importance of washing their hands. During the inspection, children remember that they must wash their hands after using the toilet.
- The childminder knows where children are in their learning. However, she does not always provide consistently high levels of support to extend their learning. This is because the childminder does not always focus specifically on what she wants children to learn next. Consequently, children do not always demonstrate consistently high levels of engagement. For example, children quickly lose interest as they play with jigsaw puzzles that are too easy for them.
- Children develop their independence skills. For example, they take their shoes off and hang up their coats. Older children begin to manage their own personal

hygiene as they blow their nose or go to the toilet.

- The childminder supports children's individual care needs exceptionally well. For example, she gets to know children's individual preferences regarding food or socialising. The childminder provides opportunities to support children, within their own comfort levels. She prepares children well for changes that are going to happen, such as a new puppy in the house. This helps children to adapt and embrace changes with confidence.
- The childminder supports children's communication well overall. She talks to children constantly and engages them in back-and-forth conversations. However, occasionally, when the childminder talks, she does not give children opportunities to express their own thoughts and ideas. This occasionally impacts on children's progress in language and communication.
- The childminder keeps her knowledge and skills up to date. She attends a range of training and local childminder groups. This helps her to keep up to date with any changes and be able to reflect on her practice. The childminder explains how she has attended training on children's mental health. This has helped her to consider the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on children's social and emotional well-being.
- The childminder has a good relationship with parents. She talks to parents about what their children have been doing and sends updates of activities they have enjoyed. Sometimes, when children have enjoyed an activity or book, children take it home to share with parents. The childminder talks to parents about how they can support their children at home with their learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture towards 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:

- focus more precisely on what children need to learn next to extend their learning further
- give children more time to express their thoughts and ideas.

Setting details

Unique reference number	305650
Local authority	Sunderland
Inspection number	10392830
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 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	10 September 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1993 and lives in Seaburn Dene, Sunderland. She holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. The childminder operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She provides government funded childcare.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Elizabeth Fish

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector around her home.
- The inspector observed children playing and learning.
- The childminder evaluated an activity with the inspector.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- Parents provided written feedback for the purpose of the inspection.
- The childminder showed the inspector a range of documents, including those relating to the suitability of all household members. She explained how she keeps children safe.

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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