

Childminder Report

Inspection date

11 December 2017

Previous inspection date

16 December 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder makes sure that all children receive exemplary standards of care. Children are extremely happy, very safe and exceedingly confident in the setting. The childminder is highly attentive to children's individual needs.
- The childminder provides stimulating activities and resources that capture children's interests. She uses observations of children's learning to effectively identify and successfully plan for what children need to learn next.
- The childminder has good links with the local schools and regularly shares information between the teachers and parents. Parents are very complimentary about the childminder and the service she provides.
- Children thrive in the childminding environment. They all make good progress in their development and develop useful skills for their next stage in learning and their eventual move on to school.
- Children are supported to develop their communication and language well. The childminder talks to children, extends their language and provides a commentary to describe what they are doing.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Self-evaluation does not have the exceptional detail that helps identify ongoing priorities and plans for further development.
- The childminder has not yet targeted professional development opportunities to help enhance her practice to an even higher level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the way self-evaluation is used to help further shape ongoing plans, to raise the quality of the provision to an even higher level
- focus more precisely on how professional development opportunities can be used to raise the quality of the already good practice to an outstanding level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the home used for childminding.
- 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 spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Melanie Vincent

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder understands her responsibility to keep her knowledge of how to protect children up to date. She knows how to recognise the possible signs and symptoms of abuse and who to report any concerns to. Children are cared for in a safe and secure environment. The childminder checks the environment on a daily basis to make sure it remains a safe place for children to play in. The childminder frequently reviews the activities and experiences she offers children to ensure they reflect their interests and stage of development. She monitors and reviews children's progress to make sure that there are no gaps in their development. Daily conversations with parents help to provide continuity of care and complement children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a good knowledge of the early years foundation stage. She observes children as they play and completes accurate assessments of their learning. The childminder is skilled in using a wide range of different teaching skills to promote children's learning. She encourages children to engage in imaginative play, based on first-hand experiences. For example, they play with role-play resources, make dens and confidently pretend to care for dolls. The childminder supports children to develop a good mathematical knowledge. During their play, children count, recognise colours and compare sizes. The childminder provides daily opportunities for children to play outdoors. Children enjoy exploring and investigating the world around them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The learning environment is highly motivating, attractive and very well organised. Children show great levels of excitement and enthusiasm when they play. They know where to find their favourite toys and make independent decisions about their play. Children's behaviour is exemplary. They delight in the praise and encouragement they receive from the childminder for their achievements. The childminder encourages children to make healthy choices. They are encouraged to manage their own safety and growing independence at every opportunity. Children are extremely well supported in their move on to new settings. The childminder makes sure that they know what to expect and that their needs continue to be met.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy exploring and investigating the range of resources on offer. They develop their physical skills well and enjoy joining in with dance activities. Children develop their imaginations well. For instance, they act out scenarios, such as writing letters and posting them at the post office. They communicate well and express themselves effectively. Children show great delight as they join in with their favourite songs. Very young children learn to share and take turns during their play. Children learn to be sociable and friendly with other children and adults.

Setting details

Unique reference number	313632
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1103630
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	16 December 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1999 and lives in Tanfield Lea, County Durham. She operates from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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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