

Childminder Report

Inspection date

29 November 2017

Previous inspection date

27 May 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		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder is nurturing and kind. Children form close bonds with her and enjoy spending time in her care. They are happy, secure and have lots of fun.
- The childminder is a good role model. She consistently reinforces her behavioural expectations through positive praise and encouragement. Children are learning how to play cooperatively and behave well.
- The childminder promotes children's health well. She provides healthy meals and snacks which children thoroughly enjoy and eat with enthusiasm. Good standards of hygiene are maintained throughout the home.
- The childminder plans many opportunities for children to be physically active in the setting and in the local environment.
- Feedback from parents demonstrates their high level of satisfaction with the service provided. Comments show that parents feel their children are safe and make good progress while in the care of the childminder.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There is scope to build on the good assessment processes to help meticulously plan provision that maximises children's progress in all areas.
- The childminder has not established a highly focused programme of professional development to drive forward the quality of teaching to an even higher level.
- The childminder does not routinely include the views of parents when she is evaluating her setting and making improvement plans.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the assessment arrangements to help plan even more precisely, so that children achieve consistently high rates of progress across all areas of learning
- focus more precisely on developing a targeted programme of professional development to drive the quality of teaching to the highest level
- strengthen the strategies used to engage parents in the evaluation of the setting.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- 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 and also spoke to a parent.

Inspector

Lindsey Pollock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a secure understanding of the procedures to follow should she have any concerns about a child in her care. She has up-to-date guidance documents about child protection and understands her responsibilities regarding this. The childminder sees children's safety and welfare as priorities and provides appropriate supervision at all times. Risk assessments are undertaken on her home and the places she visits with children. Partnerships with parents are good, overall. The childminder keeps parents well informed about children's welfare and learning. She understands the need to exchange information with other settings that children attend to provide continuity in their care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder demonstrates good teaching skills. She is encouraging and plays alongside children to guide and enhance their learning well. She also recognises when it is appropriate to let children lead their own play and make decisions. The childminder makes good use of questioning techniques to support children's increasing vocabulary and to encourage their thought processes. Activities are fun and based on what she knows children like to do. For example, lots of outings to nature areas and parks are undertaken as the childminder recognises children's love of being outdoors.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a welcoming and homely environment where children thrive. Children are happy, secure and have lots of fun. The childminder is positive and praises children's efforts. This helps to raise their self-esteem and willingness to try different things. A wide range of visits and outings widens children's understanding of the community and wider world. The childminder also uses these activities to teach children how to keep themselves safe. For example, they learn how to cross the road and how to behave around others. Children gain a good awareness of healthy lifestyles. They follow good hygiene routines, including washing their hands before they eat.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and are becoming well prepared their next stage in learning. They are confident and inquisitive learners who gain good communication skills. They engage well in activities and show increasing levels of concentration. Children learn practical skills and are becoming increasingly competent at doing things for themselves, such as putting on their coat and shoes. They are confident in their physical abilities and are keen to try new activities and experiences. Children enjoy practising their number recognition and counting through daily routines and as they play with the plentiful resources.

Setting details

Unique reference number	313703
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1101833
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	27 May 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1995 and lives in Langley Park. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for family holidays.

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