

Childminder Report

Inspection date

16 June 2017

Previous inspection date

22 January 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 well qualified and experienced. She uses her skills very well overall, to support children's learning and development. She is a very good play companion and children relish her participation in activities.
- Children enjoy positive attachments with the childminder, promoting their well-being effectively and giving them confidence to explore. Children lead their own play and explore their ideas successfully, using the wide range of resources available.
- Partnerships with parents are well established. The childminder provides many opportunities for parents to be involved in their children's learning. She promotes good information sharing and supports parents to continue learning at home.
- The childminder is confident in her assessments of children's learning. She observes children effectively and plans activities based on their interests and next steps. The childminder monitors children's development well, supporting their good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the childminder supports children's vocabulary and communication skills very well, she does not always support children to hear and learn the correct pronunciation of sounds, letters and words.
- The childminder supports children's involvement in their local community well. However, she does not regularly introduce children to diversity beyond their immediate experiences, to support a firm understanding and tolerance of others.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance teaching to support children in their understanding of letter sounds
- extend experiences that promote children's understanding of people, families and communities beyond their own.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder and assessed the accuracy of her evaluation.
- The inspector viewed children's records, planning documentation and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and other professionals from letters sent for the attention of the inspector.

Inspector

Katie Sparrow

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good understanding of the procedures to follow if she had any concerns regarding a child's welfare. She completes training and seeks further information in this area to keep herself up to date and vigilant. The childminder evaluates her provision very well and regularly shares good practice with other childminders. She uses this knowledge effectively to make improvements to the quality of her teaching and the provision. The childminder has made good improvements since her last inspection, greatly enhancing the partnership working with others. For example, the childminder works closely with staff at other settings children attend, contributing to good information sharing and promoting consistency for children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of how children learn and develop. She plans interesting activities and experiences that challenge children well and motivate them to learn. Children enjoy participating in activities linked to themes, such as growing. They plant a range of different vegetables and plants, using good physical skills, to transfer and dig small holes in the soil for the seeds. They discuss what plants need so that they 'grow strong'. The childminder effectively links this to the children's health and teaches them about healthy lifestyles. Children excitedly look at a height chart, exploring the numbers and discussing how tall they are. The childminder supports children's critical thinking well, as she encourages them to predict the height of other children who are not present. Children use the information successfully to compare their different heights.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a stimulating and welcoming environment where children are secure and greatly motivated to learn. They demonstrate very good safety awareness as they practise the safety rules. For example, when coming down the stairs, children remind the childminder they must walk on the outside of the staircase, rather than the narrow part, to keep safe. Children behave very well. They are cooperative and have good listening skills. They happily follow the routine of the day and help decide what they should do next.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress. They are confident communicators and are keen and enthusiastic to join in. Children show persistence in their learning, for example, they persevere when completing puzzles. They gain important skills to help prepare them well for their eventual move on to school. For example, older children independently attend to their self-care needs and develop confidence in new and social situations.

Setting details

Unique reference number	317308
Local authority	Cumbria
Inspection number	1087102
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	22 January 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1993 and lives in Hayton, near Carlisle, Cumbria. The childminder operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3.

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