

Childminder Report

Inspection date

29 May 2018

Previous inspection date

8 July 2015

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 develops effective partnerships with parents overall. They have a daily exchange of information regarding children's care and well-being. Parents are complimentary about the childminder and the service that she provides.
- Children are self-assured, happy and emotionally secure. They develop strong, affectionate bonds with the childminder who is kind and responsive to their needs.
- Children's behaviour is very good. The childminder provides plenty of praise and encouragement to help support children's confidence and sense of self-esteem. Children learn to share and they demonstrate excellent manners.
- Children develop an understanding of danger and they know how to keep themselves safe. For example, they learn road safety while out walking in the local area with the childminder.
- The childminder provides enjoyable and stimulating activities which engage children well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the childminder establishes positive relationships with parents, she does not gather detailed information about children's achievements at home, to inform planning of activities and experiences from the outset.
- Assessments are not as sharply focused to enable the childminder to plan more precisely for children's next steps in learning to help them to make the best possible progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gather more information from parents about what children already know and can do when they first start, to inform initial planning.
- make even better use of assessments to plan more precisely for children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation, including evidence of the suitability of adults living in the household.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents from written feedback provided.

Inspector

Denise Charge

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good understanding of child protection issues and of the local safeguarding procedures to follow if she has any concerns about a child's welfare. She keeps her knowledge and practice updated, for example, by completing required training and amending policies as necessary. She has broadened her understanding of wider safeguarding issues, such as protecting children from extreme views and behaviour. The childminder effectively assesses potential hazards in her home, garden and while on outings. She identifies and minimises possible risks. Children receive good support to learn how to keep themselves safe. The childminder meets with other childminders to share good practice and gather new ideas. She evaluates her provision and makes changes to enhance her service.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified childminder knows children well and plans activities that capture their interest. The childminder promotes children's language and communications skills well as she uses words to describe the movements she is making. For example, she uses the words 'forwards' and 'backwards' as she shows children how to use a rolling pin. The childminder gives children plenty of time to think and respond to questions. She gets down to children's level and joins in with their play. She sits alongside children skilfully supporting the development of early mathematical skills as they practise their counting. Children enjoy activities that help to develop their imaginations and imitate real-life experiences. For example, they make birthday cakes with play dough, add candles and sing happy birthday to each other.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are exceptionally well supported to become self-assured learners. They feel secure in the environment and display very high levels of confidence and emotional well-being. Children are skilled in sharing and show a clear understanding of the need to take turns. Younger children delight in joining in play with older children, relishing the praise they receive for their efforts. They practise early mark-making skills as they copy older children as they draw. This helps children to build a positive sense of self-esteem and a belief in their own abilities. Children understand the childminder's high expectations of them as they happily help to tidy away toys. Children demonstrate good manners and behave well. The childminder gently reminds children of boundaries as they play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and development. They are keen to join in with activities and concentrate for long periods of time, relative to their age. Children are confident when meeting new visitors and invite the visitors to join in with their play. Children develop a range of skills which will prepare them for their future learning and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	507020
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	1128309
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 9
Total number of places	9
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	8 July 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1996 and lives in Blythe, Northumberland. The childminder operates all year round, from 7am until 5.30 pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant childcare qualification.

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