

Childminder Report

Inspection date

22 August 2016

Previous inspection date

12 June 2013

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 close relationships with parents. For example, she shares her policies to make them aware of her practice, and she informs them of their children's daily well-being and routines.
- The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn and develop. She uses this knowledge effectively to help her plan activities that are enjoyable, capture children's interests and are suitably challenging.
- Children enjoy good opportunities to be physically active, especially as they play and explore the garden with its good range of toys. This helps them to develop control of their movements.
- Children are very happy and confident in the childminder's care. They develop a good sense of belonging and form strong attachments with the childminder and each other. This helps to promote their emotional well-being.
- The childminder provides children with a stimulating environment where they are able to access resources independently. This helps them to take the lead and follow their own play experiences.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not fully share specific next steps in children's learning with all parents, when supplying information about how to support children's learning at home.
- The childminder has not established efficient systems to ensure her knowledge is kept current regarding some recent developments in childcare practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further the exchange of information with parents about how they can support children's learning at home
- explore ways to engage in professional development opportunities and secure up-to-date knowledge relating to changes that affect childcare practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and evaluated these jointly with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's records, observation and assessment files and a selection of policies.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of parents' views from the written documentation they had provided for the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's qualification and the suitability of all adults living in the home.

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a secure knowledge of safeguarding procedures and the action to take if she is concerned about a child's welfare. The childminder's home is risk assessed. She ensures all potential hazards to children are minimised. The childminder frequently monitors children's learning to ensure that all children make good progress from their starting points. These regular checks help the childminder to identify any gaps in children's learning. The childminder reflects on her provision to make improvements and gathers the views of parents and children during this process. She has completed mandatory training, such as first aid. Parents comment positively about the quality of provision and the care provided.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder regularly observes children as they play, and makes accurate assessments of what they know and can do. She provides many hands-on experiences that engage children, supporting them in making good progress in their learning. The childminder promotes children's communication and language skills well. She talks to children constantly, and repeats words back to them to help develop their understanding of pronunciation and the spoken language. The childminder provides children with a range of sensory exploration to help to develop their social skills, mark-making skills and language skills. They enthusiastically manipulate play dough and use descriptive language to describe what they are making. For example, one child explains he is squeezing and squashing the dough to make it look like a pizza. The childminder shows young children how to use the tools and equipment to explore the dough in different ways. Children demonstrate that they are keen to join in and have a go. They are learning to persist and keep trying.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides children with a welcoming environment where they freely explore and have fun. Children are given clear boundaries and expectations for behaviour. The childminder teaches them to be kind and considerate to the needs of others. Children's good health is promoted well. They are provided with healthy meals and snacks, and the childminder reminds them of the importance of good handwashing routines. Children are independent. They keenly manage their own care needs when they are ready. Children benefit from plenty of fresh air. They greatly enjoy practising their physical skills, using scooters, bats and balls in the childminder's garden.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning and development. Children are confident learners who readily join in with the activities on offer. They develop a love of books and handle them with care. Children gain a strong understanding of mathematical concepts as they learn about numbers and colours. They develop their physical skills as they use tools and manipulate small items. For example, they practise counting and simple calculations when making pretend food with play dough. Children are gaining the key skills needed to support their future learning and readiness for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	507037
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	1064206
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	12 June 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1997 and lives in Choppington, Northumberland. The childminder operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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