

Childminder report

Inspection date	13 February 2019
Previous inspection date	15 April 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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 regularly reviews the quality of her provision. She seeks the views of parents and children to help her to identify ways she can improve.
- The childminder supports children's emerging communication skills very well. For example, she sings familiar nursery rhymes with them. They reciprocate, excitedly copying the words and actions.
- The childminder gathers a wide range of information from parents regarding their children's abilities when they first start. Effective settling-in procedures are in place that positively support individual children's emotional needs.
- Children are beginning to develop good mathematical language skills. This is demonstrated as children count confidently and are beginning to learn about the names of different shapes.
- The childminder uses her qualifications extremely well to monitor children's learning. This helps her to quickly identify where further support may be needed.
- Sometimes, the childminder does not give children enough time to think about questions she asks them, before giving them the answer.
- Occasionally, the childminder is unaware that background music causes some children to become distracted during quieter activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support children's language and critical thinking skills further by giving them more time to process questions
- enhance the learning environment further by ensuring background music and sounds do not cause a distraction for children during quieter activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector viewed and discussed a range of documentation with the childminder, including key policies and procedures, the childminder's training certificates, and children's learning files.
- The inspector spoke to parents and read letters of reference to establish their views on the service they receive.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed an evaluation of an activity with the childminder, and discussed what the children had been learning.

Inspector

Amanda Hartigan

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a robust understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She regularly updates her child protection training. She knows who to contact if she is concerned about the welfare or safety of a child. In addition, thorough risk assessments help to ensure that the property is safe. The childminder has a strong commitment to promoting her ongoing professional development. For example, she frequently undertakes an impressive variety of training courses to promote her already good knowledge and skills. She works well with other professionals, where necessary, to support the children in her care. Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents are extremely complimentary and appreciative about the care that the childminder gives their children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a good understanding of where children are in their learning. Regular assessments and detailed observations help the childminder to plan interesting and challenging activities that help all children to make good progress. The childminder supports children's learning well and builds on existing skills to enhance their play. For example, children enjoyed using different materials to make houses during story time. They excitedly huffed and puffed to see which of the pretend houses would blow down. The childminder shares information on children's daily activities and learning with parents. This helps parents to support children's learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop close and strong relationships with the childminder. They eagerly approach her for reassurance and when tired, snuggle up to her. Children enjoy daily physical exercise and learn about road safety. For instance, they know to look right and left to check that there are no vehicles before crossing. Children are developing a good understanding of healthy lifestyles. This is demonstrated as children select fresh fruit and rice cakes during snack times. Children listen well and follow simple instructions, such as tidying up ready for snack time and washing their hands before eating.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress with their learning. They are developing a good range of independence skills, such as managing to put on their shoes and coats. Children are sociable and confident learners. They share the resources well and their behaviour is kind and cooperative. This positively helps to develop children's personal and social skills as they enthusiastically engage with their chosen activities. Children are well prepared for their next stage in learning and eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	507069
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	10065210
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	19
Date of previous inspection	15 April 2016

The childminder registered in 1998. She lives in Barrasford, Hexham. She is open all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder also offers occasional weekend care. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 6 with an Advanced Diploma in Early Years Practice. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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