

Childminder report

Inspection date: 19 May 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children thoroughly enjoy their time with the childminder. They move around her home and garden with great assurance, happily making choices about what to do. They know where to find the resources they want to use in the well-organised learning environment. This helps children to be independent in their learning and shows they feel safe and secure in the childminder's care.

Children confidently direct their own play. They use their imagination and adapt resources to enable their play to continue. For example, children re-enact the real-life experience of a trip to the hairdresser. They drape pieces of fabric around their shoulders to represent the hairdresser's gown. Children discuss different hair styles and talk about needing to sit very still as their hair is combed.

Babies show their determination to succeed as they manoeuvre themselves over a step into the childminder's home. They know to put their hands on the floor and work out how to lift their legs and shift their bodies until they achieve their objective. Babies clap their hands in delight at the very genuine praise from the childminder for their achievements.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Overall, the childminder knows what individual children need to learn next and plans activities to support this development. She gathers detailed information prior to children starting with her to support their learning from the moment they begin.
- The childminder is a skilled practitioner who knows when to stand back and let children try things for themselves. For example, as children play with bubbles they notice some have more bubble mix than others. Children work together to pour the liquid into each other's bottles until they are satisfied they have equal amounts.
- Children's behaviour is very good. They are kind and considerate to each other and are happy to wait their turn when sharing resources. Older children show care and concern for babies. For example, when the childminder recognises babies are thirsty, older children willingly carry the drinks.
- Developing children's communication skills is a key feature of the childminder's practice. She knows to speak slowly and clearly to children, using the correct pronunciation and giving them time to process their thoughts. The childminder extends children's vocabulary through introducing new words as they play. For example, she tells children that they are looking at their 'reflection' as they see themselves through a window.
- Children have fun as they develop their physical skills. For example, they learn to control their movements as they use bottles to squirt water at the wall and on

the floor. The childminder encourages children to notice how the water alters the colour of the bricks and paving stones. This makes children aware that they can bring about change to different materials.

- Children are very independent and show determination to manage their own self-care needs. They know to wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet. Older children remind younger ones to put soap on their hands and to rub them well. However, the childminder does not consistently help children to develop a deeper understanding of why they need to wash their hands, to reinforce their understanding of keeping themselves healthy.
- Children clearly demonstrate that they understand the daily routines. For example, they know to tidy resources away before snack and to ask the childminder for a cloth to wipe the table before setting out the plates and beakers.
- Children have high levels of concentration for their age and spend long periods at activities of their choosing. For example, they bring stories to the childminder, knowing they will be read. Children listen with interest to what others say and respond with appropriate comments. This helps to develop children's literacy skills and fosters their love of books.
- Parents are very complimentary about the service the childminder provides. They speak highly of her care and commitment in supporting their children's development. Parents compliment the childminder on the wide range of experiences she provides for their children.
- Older children show an early understanding of numbers and counting. They know their ages and know how many fingers will show this number. However, the childminder is not consistent in using activities and routines to extend this understanding further.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a clear understanding of her role in protecting children who may be at risk of harm. She is alert to possible indicators of when a child may need help, and knows the relevant agencies to contact for guidance. The childminder accesses child protection training and is aware of the correct procedure to take should there be an allegation made against her. The premises are secure. The childminder carries out daily checks of the indoor and outdoor environments to ensure that they remain safe for children to use.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- develop children's understanding of self-care skills even further to ensure they have a good understanding of why they need to keep themselves healthy

- make use of all opportunities that arise to further increase children's understanding of numbers and counting.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY103783
Local authority	Hartlepool Borough
Inspection number	10229458
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	16 November 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2002 and lives in Hartlepool. She operates all year round, from 8am to 5.30pm on Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for two-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Denise Charge

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- A joint observation of an activity was carried out with the childminder.
- Activities were observed during the inspection. The inspector assessed the impact that activities have on children's learning and development.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children during the inspection.
- The written views and opinions of parents were taken into account during the inspection.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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