

Childminder report

Inspection date: 31 January 2023

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 are very happy in the childminder's home. They demonstrate this as they snuggle together to listen to stories. Parents comment that the childminder goes 'above and beyond' to meet children's individual needs. For example, she meets with any professionals working with children to understand how she can help children even more effectively. Children learn how they can keep themselves safe. For example, they learn how they can keep their play space safe by putting the toys away. As children get older, they learn how to sit on chairs safely.

The childminder has high expectations of children's learning. She reads a range of books and helps children learn how to handle books correctly. They turn pages and lift the flaps. They regularly choose books for the childminder to read. Parents say that they are impressed by the progress their children make. Children concentrate well on their learning. They thoroughly enjoy playing with jigsaws. Two-year-old children persevere as they turn the jigsaw pieces around to fit them into the spaces. They use the pictures to work out where pieces go.

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

- The childminder teaches children how they can keep themselves healthy. Children talk about vegetables and food that are good for them. They learn about why drinking water is good for them. The childminder teaches children the importance of washing hands and brushing teeth. Parents comment that their children know how to wash their hands and brush their teeth and follow these hygiene routines at home.
- Children behave well. The childminder has clear expectations she consistently reinforces. For example, she reminds children to tidy the toys that they are using. The childminder uses a range of techniques to manage children's behaviour. She responds quickly when children show signs of tiredness and gives them time to relax and calm down to prevent any unwanted behaviours. When children do become distressed, techniques, such as distraction help to calm children down.
- The childminder knows where children are in their learning and plans activities to support their development further. For example, she plans activities, such as stories, to help children's communication. However, the childminder has not thought sufficiently about the order in which children develop their literacy skills. Sometimes, the activities she provides are too hard for children. This is evident as the childminder talks about letters and the sounds they make before they have the understanding for this.
- Children have a good relationship with the childminder. For example, two-year old children snuggle on her knee when they are tired. They settle quickly as the childminder strokes their back. The childminder knows children well, for example

she notices when children are tired and provides opportunities for them to relax before moving on to the next activity.

- The childminder understands how to support children's communication and language skills. She talks to children and repeats and extends what children are saying. She is a good role model, and this encourages children to develop their language skills. She uses books as a way to develop children's language. For example, she reads books, giving children the opportunity to talk about the books and illustrations.
- The childminder has a good relationship with parents. She talks to parents about where children are in their learning and what they have been doing at home. The childminder shares strategies with parents about how they can help their children at home. However, she is not always sufficiently proactive in evaluating the effectiveness of these strategies to help children to make the best possible progress.
- The childminder has a good attitude to keeping her training up to date. She attends regular webinars to enhance her knowledge and skills. She evaluates her practice following training and makes adaptations where she feels improvements can be made. For example, the childminder has changed her handwashing routines to include soap dispensers and paper towels. This helps to reduce the spread of infection.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a good understanding of how she can keep children safe. She talks confidently about the signs and symptoms that may suggest a child is subject to abuse. She attends regular training to keep her knowledge up to date in this area. This means that she has a strong understanding of safeguarding concerns, such as female genital mutilation or exploitation. The childminder knows the procedures to follow if she has a concern about a child. Children play in a clean and well-maintained environment, both inside and outside. Her environment is safe and thorough risk assessments reduce hazards to children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen understanding of the sequential order in which children develop their literacy skills
- evaluate the effectiveness of strategies shared with parents to ensure children make the best possible progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY310510
Local authority	Gateshead
Inspection number	10263240
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 5
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	25 April 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2005 and lives in Crawcrook. She operates all year round from 7am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder is registered to provide funded places for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Elizabeth Fish

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 provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder showed the inspector around her home and explained how she organises her curriculum.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- Parents provided written feedback for the purpose of the inspection.
- The childminder evaluated an activity with the inspector.
- The inspector observed children playing and learning.
- The childminder explained how she manages her provision. She showed the inspector a range of documents, including those relating to her suitability.

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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