

Childminder report

Inspection date: 20 June 2025

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive in the care of this dedicated and reflective childminder. She goes above and beyond to provide families with support and guidance. Many parents comment that they would not have got through some difficult times without the childminder. Children are incredibly happy in the childminder's care. Young children enjoy plenty of cuddles and reassurance. As they wake up from naps, they snuggle in and have time to wake up gradually. Parents comment that their children have a strong bond with the childminder and her family. They say that the childminder, as well as her assistants, are always on hand to provide cuddles and reassurance.

The childminder's curriculum is ambitious. She seizes opportunities to develop children's literacy and counting skills. For example, she demonstrates counting with numbers in order as they chop the snack or go up the stairs. Older children move their name to the board to register themselves. They also register the younger children in the group, demonstrating their developing literacy skills.

Children learn how to keep themselves safe. For example, they learn to use knives and cutlery safely and with control. The childminder provides safety knives to chop up fruit. Children help to prepare food for other children. Children behave exceptionally well. They know the routines and expectations. For example, older children begin to tidy up before they are told to. They wait patiently at the table while the childminder helps younger children to wash their hands.

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

- The childminder has spent a great deal of time since her last inspection developing children's independence. This has had an incredibly positive impact. For example, very young children put their own shoes and coat on and prepare their lunch and snack. Parents comment that their children's independence has developed so much.
- The childminder's curriculum is exceptionally well sequenced. For example, the childminder has thought carefully about the skills that children need to develop their early writing skills. They use resources, such as streamers and play dough, to develop their shoulder and elbow muscles. This helps them to develop effective writing techniques when they are ready.
- Children are highly engaged and motivated. Children thoroughly enjoy stories and songs. They watch with eager anticipation as the childminder gets the song bag. One-year-old children bounce and sway to the music. They use actions to tell the childminder what songs they want to sing next. They engage well as they do the actions, such as winding the bobbin. When the childminder sings a song about sleeping bunnies, they eagerly anticipate the childminder saying; 'Wake up bunnies!'

- The childminder is highly focused on developing children's communication and language skills and plans her support with precision. Children make excellent progress in their ability to communicate. Very young children have an immense vocabulary for their age. They begin to combine two words together rapidly.
- Children develop excellent relationships with others and have a superb awareness of their needs. For example, as toddlers watch others sending cars down a ramp, two-year-old children ask; 'Do you want to do it?' They patiently show them what to do and take turns. Parents comment that their children are caring, considerate and kind, thanks to the childminder.
- The childminder teaches children how they can keep themselves healthy. From a very young age, children are adept at washing their hands. They enjoy a range of healthy meals with plenty of fruit and vegetables. The childminder shares detailed information with parents about food children have enjoyed. This encourages parents to increase the variety of foods children eat at home.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent. When children first start, the childminder takes time to get to know children and their families through a long and gradual settling-in process. She communicates with parents using a range of methods, such as diaries or electronic communication. She adapts her approaches so that they work for individual families. Parents know what children are doing and how they can help them at home.
- The childminder is fully committed to ensuring her own knowledge and skills, as well as those of any assistants she employs, are kept up to date and continue to improve. For example, the childminder's recent training on brain development is helping to provide children with more flexible ways of using their imaginations. The childminder ensures any new knowledge and skills gained from training are shared with her assistants. Assistants also benefit from attending training themselves. They all work effectively together, acting on key messages from training to improve provision.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY312131
Local authority	North Tyneside
Inspection number	10392898
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	1 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	11
Date of previous inspection	11 October 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2005 and lives in the North Shields area of Tyne and Wear. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She occasionally works with assistants. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She provides government funded childcare.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Elizabeth Fish

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector around her home and explained how she organises her provision.
- The inspector observed children playing and learning.
- The childminder evaluated an activity with the inspector.
- The inspector talked to the childminder and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- Parents provided written feedback for the purpose of the inspection.
- The childminder showed the inspector a range of documents, including those relating to the suitability of all household members and assistants she employs.

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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