

Childminder report

Inspection date: 7 February 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 are happy and settled in the childminder's care. They form good friendships with each other and have a secure bond with the childminder. Children talk about what they like to do at the setting, for example they like to build with the bricks and use play dough. Children also have opportunities to make friends outside of the setting, which promotes their social development.

The childminder has high expectations for children's behaviour and learning. As a result, all children make good progress in their learning and development. The childminder praises and encourages positive behaviour, such as waiting and taking turns. Children are very well behaved and have a positive attitude to learning. They eagerly participate in all activities and concentrate for extended periods of time when listening to stories, drawing, building and participating in a yoga session.

Children's language, communication and vocabulary are well promoted. They participate in lots of discussions, story times and singing activities and also attend a weekly music session. Children are helped to learn about, and to describe, how they feel. This is done with interesting activities using a mirror and pictures of different facial expressions. This helps to promote children's personal, social and emotional development.

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

- The childminder implements a well-designed curriculum, which supports children to make good progress in all areas of learning. Activities are well planned and take account of children's interests, individual needs and next steps. The childminder provides a stimulating and accessible environment that also promotes children's independent learning and exploration.
- The childminder knows the children in her care very well and is responsive to their needs. For example, she implements babies' care routines and is very aware of when they need feeding, changing or when they are tired. The childminder also works cooperatively with parents to provide children with consistent support with toilet training.
- Children show a lot of interest in books. They look at books independently and also ask the childminder to read to them. The childminder extends children's interests by adding additional activities to story times, such as finding matching picture cards. However, there are, sometimes, missed opportunities to challenge children's thinking to an even higher level.
- Children enjoy playing with magnetic figures to match items on a board. They know what the different coloured traffic lights mean. This helps to promote their understanding of personal safety. They also learn about safety when on walks in the local area and visits to the park. Children have access to an enclosed rear

garden at the premises, however, this is not regularly used throughout the year.

- Children's large physical development is, sometimes, promoted indoors. They enjoy participating in a yoga activity, linked to a story they are interested in. This helps to consolidate what they know about the sequence of events in the story.
- Children enjoy number and counting games, songs and activities. They also learn about the order of days of the week, including weekends and talk about what they do on a weekend with their family. This helps to promote children's language and communication skills.
- Children's understanding of the world is well promoted. They learn about different cultural celebrations and food, different climates and also about 'people who help us'. They also learn about people in their local community when on walks and outings. Children are taught respect for others, such as waiting for their turn to speak when other children have finished speaking.
- The childminder works well in partnership with parents and carers to ensure they are kept fully informed of their child's development. Parents report that they are very happy with the care their children receive and that they are making good progress in their learning.
- The childminder supports children well with moving on to nursery or school. She also works well with other professionals and uses the same behaviour management strategy, when needed, that is used at the local nursery. This supports children to have a consistent approach and understanding of behaviour.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of how to promote children's welfare. She demonstrates that she would be able to recognise the signs and symptoms of possible abuse and neglect, and knows how to act to safeguard children. The childminder has a positive attitude to continuous professional development and has access to relevant training courses, including safeguarding children training. The rear garden and home are secure and, generally, safe. However, there is a loose electrical socket in the dining room. The childminder has taken temporary measures to ensure children cannot access the socket but a more permanent action is recommended.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- ensure that activities are sufficiently challenging in order to promote children's learning to a higher level
- make more regular use of the rear garden to promote children's outdoor play

and learning all year round

- take further steps to ensure the loose electrical socket in the dining room does not pose a hazard to children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY350540
Local authority	Sunderland
Inspection number	10216872
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 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	7 September 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Houghton-le-Spring. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for three-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Elaine McDonnell

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider 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 inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about their intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to children, to find out about their time at the setting.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a communication and language activity with the childminder.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.

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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