

Childminder report

Inspection date	11 September 2018
Previous inspection date	22 July 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

The provision is good

- The experienced childminder has a good understanding of how young children learn. She is committed to providing children with high-quality learning experiences and individualised care. As a result, children are keen learners who are very eager to explore and investigate.
- The childminder evaluates her setting well. She frequently seeks the views of parents and children to help identify strengths and weaknesses, including areas for further improvement.
- Children have established strong bonds and attachments with the childminder, which helps to support their emotional well-being. Consequently, children are happy and settled.
- The childminder uses the local area to broaden the range of learning experiences offered. This also enables children to be more involved in their wider community and to develop an awareness of the world around them.
- Overall, partnerships with parents are good. The childminder keeps parents well informed about their children's activities and the care they receive. Parents comment positively on the service the childminder provides.
- Partnerships with other settings that children attend are good. Information about children's learning is shared effectively, to ensure children's individual learning needs are met.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the childminder works well with parents, information gathered from parents is not used effectively to identify what children can already do when they first start at the setting.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gather more detailed information from parents about children's capabilities on entry to the setting.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of written feedback they had provided.

Inspector

Julie Campbell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The well-qualified childminder has a good programme of professional development. She works with her local authority and regularly attends courses which have a positive impact on the quality of teaching. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good understanding of safeguarding and has appropriate policies in place. She is able to recognise signs of potential abuse and knows what to do if she has concerns about a child. This includes where children may be at risk of harm from extreme behaviours or views. The childminder carries out a number of risk assessments in the home and ensures all areas accessed by children are free from risks or hazards. This helps to keep children safe from harm.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides a good range of resources and organises her play area well. This helps children to make independent choices about what they would like to play with. The childminder completes regular observations and assessments of children's learning. This helps her to know what children need to learn next and identify any gaps in their learning. The childminder supports children's communication and language development effectively. She shares books and sings songs to children. Furthermore, she involves children skilfully, modelling conversation and introducing new vocabulary. Young children enjoy playing with small-world toys. They imitate the sounds of animals as they walk them along. Children have opportunities to be physically active. They regularly go to playgroups and parks which helps to effectively support their physical well-being.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a stimulating learning environment for children. She interacts with children effectively and encourages them to be independent. For example, children choose their own activities, feed themselves and help themselves to drinks. Children have a warm, secure relationship with the childminder. The childminder is a good role model. She effectively supports children to understand the difference between right and wrong. As a result, children behave well. She has a flexible approach to settling children. She supports the transitions by finding out about their home care routines. Children have opportunities to meet with other children when they visit a local playgroup. They play cooperatively together and behave well. This helps develop children's social skills. The childminder promotes children's healthy lifestyles well. She provides children with nutritious meals, snacks and drinks and makes full use of opportunities to develop their understanding of healthy lifestyles.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress in relation to their stage of development. For example, toddlers develop good social skills, such as learning to share and take turns. Children have plenty of opportunities to develop key skills in early mathematics. For example, they confidently count as they play. Children's early literacy skills are developing well. They enjoy looking at the good range of books on offer, both on their own and with the childminder. Children are developing skills that help them to be ready for their eventual move on to nursery and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY376508
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	10062736
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	22 July 2016

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Chester-le-Street, County Durham. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holiday and family holidays. She holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 5.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
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