

Inspection date	17 March 2015
Previous inspection date	9 January 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Teaching is good because the childminder provides a stimulating environment, which helps children to learn through play and real experiences. She has a secure understanding of how children learn and provides a broad and balanced range of age-related activities to support them to make good progress.
- The childminder regularly takes children to child-orientated groups and they visit the library each week. Children also participate in outdoor activities, where they exercise and learn about the world and their community. As a result, children develop good skills in preparation for school.
- Children are very happy and settled in this welcoming home. They have good attachments to the childminder, who is very caring and attentive to their needs.
- The childminder has a secure understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and effectively ensures all regulations are well met.
- The childminder reflects on her practice and she acts on any advice and guidance she receives. Her self-evaluation identifies priorities for improvement to strengthen her practice further. Recommendations from the last inspection have been met and she seeks the views of parents to ensure a holistic approach to future development.
- The childminder has a consistent approach to children's behaviour and her use of positive praise raises children's self-esteem and sense of belonging. She ensures that activities are fully inclusive and support the needs of all children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Planning is not always sharply focused, resulting in occasional missed opportunities to plan challenging activities linked to children's next steps in learning to maximise their progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance planning, so it is more sharply focused to always provide rich and challenging experiences that are precisely linked to children's next steps in learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas of the home used for childcare.
- The inspector observed the childminder and the children playing in the living room, kitchen and garden.
- The inspector talked to the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of the childminder's documentation, including evidence of suitability, qualifications, policies and children's learning records.
- The inspector discussed and evaluated an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector acknowledged the views of parents through written statements.

Inspector

Lindsay Dobson

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The childminder promotes children's learning well through the provision of a good range of exciting activities and experiences. She has a secure knowledge of the children's interests and stage of development. The childminder plays at children's level, to focus and engage their attention. Children enjoy interactive books and are excited to play and build with large construction blocks. The childminder allows children time to practise their communication and language skills. For example, they make predictions about stories and chatter to each other and the childminder as they play. Additionally, children see written words and pictures around the home. This supports their literacy and vocabulary skills, as they talk about what they see. However, planning for the outdoor area is not always as sharply focused. This means opportunities are occasionally missed to engage children in varied and stimulating activities in the garden, precisely linked to their next steps in learning. The childminder monitors children's progress through clear observation and tracking. She successfully involves the parents in this process enabling them to carry on children's learning at home.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

The childminder's home is safe, secure and organised well to be a child-friendly learning environment. Children's physical and emotional well-being is effectively supported. Children move around confidently and invite the childminder to join in with their play. They particularly thrive as they are now able to move freely between indoor play and the garden. This supports their individual learning styles well. Children's individual health needs, in particular specific dietary requirements are well-known and met. The childminder provides a nutritious range of healthy food options and children have access to drinks throughout the day. Additionally, they enjoy lots of fresh air and exercise in the garden and on many outings and visits, which supports a healthy lifestyle.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The childminder's understanding of child protection is good. Therefore, she is able to recognise and act on any concerns she may have about a child in her care. Safety checks are consistently carried out; consequently, children can play in safety. Partnerships with parents and the local school are very good. This ensures that all adults involved in the care of the children work together to promote their well-being, learning and development. The childminder effectively monitors planning and assessment of learning which ensures she provides activities and experiences tailored to children's needs. The childminder holds a recognised qualification in childcare and completes a range of additional training courses. Therefore, she has a secure knowledge of children's care and development. This is used well to benefit children and to ensure good quality teaching and learning takes place.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY381823
Local authority	York
Inspection number	858705
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	15
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	9 January 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in the Poppleton area of York. She operates all year round, from 7.45am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for family holidays. The childminder holds a recognised childcare qualification at level 3.

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