

Childminder Report

Inspection date

2 November 2017

Previous inspection date

11 June 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the 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

This provision is good

- The childminder is experienced and well qualified. She has a good understanding of child development and provides a wide range of age-appropriate activities to promote children's learning and continued good progress.
- The childminder creates a warm and welcoming, home-from-home environment. Children develop a strong bond with her, which effectively supports their emotional well-being. Children are very happy and settle easily in her care.
- Children's behaviour is good. The childminder is a positive role model. She is very calm, kind and caring, and shows respect to children and their parents.
- The childminder completes regular observations and assessments of children's progress. She uses this information effectively to help identify the next steps in their learning. Children are making good progress from their individual starting points.
- The outdoor play area is well-organised and accessible to younger children. They explore and investigate the natural world and engage in a wide range of physical play opportunities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, the childminder is over eager in her questioning and does not give younger children the time they need to process their thoughts before she answers for them.
- The arrangements for sharing information with other early years settings are not fully embedded to ensure continuity in children's care and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review and enhance questioning skills to allow more time for younger children to process their thoughts and formulate a response
- build on the arrangements for sharing information with other early years settings to ensure continuity in children's care and learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- 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 children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided and discussions during the inspection.

Inspector

Carys Millican

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good understanding of child protection and wider safeguarding issues. She knows what action to take if she is concerned about a child in her care. The childminder completes thorough risk assessments for her home, outdoor play area and for each outing. This reduces the hazards to children and helps to keep them safe. The childminder reflects on her practice regularly, by asking parents about the quality of the service she provides. The well-qualified childminder continues to develop her own professional knowledge and expertise. She attends seminars, completes online course and face-to-face workshops. The childminder uses the support of other childminders to engage in professional discussions and to share good practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows the children extremely well. She uses accurate observations and assessments to plan interesting and stimulating activities that help to further children's development. These activities meet their individual needs and follow the next steps in their learning. For example, she offers young children sensory experiences using different textures and materials. They feel the texture of different paint on their hands while creating their night-time firework picture. Young children explore pasta shapes in trays and learn to thread pipe cleaners through colanders and other containers. The childminder constantly interacts with the children so they hear words and sounds to help promote their communication and language skills. Children are encouraged to share resources and take turns as they play, and their physical skills are well promoted in the outdoor play area.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder constantly praises the children during their play. This contributes greatly to their emotional well-being and builds on their self-esteem and confidence. Children benefit from the opportunity to go on outings into the community where they mix with other children and learn about the world around them. Children demonstrate that they are secure in their relationships with the childminder. For example, when they are tired or upset, they snuggle into her for reassurance and calmly fall asleep. Children play in well-resourced and well-organised play areas. Their independence and physical skills are well supported while they help themselves easily to a variety of resources, indoors and outdoors. The childminder provides balanced and nutritious snacks and takes into account dietary needs. Parents state how well they are kept informed by the childminder using the diary book and daily conversations at arrival and collection times.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are active learners and have a can-do attitude. They learn to take responsibility for small tasks, such as helping to tidy away toys when asked. Young children learn how to turn the pages of books and press buttons to make the noises of animals in stories. Children develop the skills that prepare them well for the move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY390960
Local authority	Cumbria
Inspection number	1102180
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 1
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	11 June 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2009 and lives in Whitehaven, Cumbria. She operates all year round from 8am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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