

Childminder Report

Inspection date

29 June 2015

Previous inspection date

10 March 2010

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. The childminder has a sound understanding of how children learn. She engages with them, talking to them about their play as she supports them to make good progress across all areas of learning.
- The childminder has developed secure attachments with the children. Children's emotional well-being is very well promoted, and children are already independent.
- Children are protected and safeguarded. The childminder knows what action to take to keep children safe from harm should she have any concerns. Additionally, she ensures her home is risk assessed to minimise hazards.
- The childminder has a good understanding of the importance of working in partnership with parents. She uses a variety of ways to encourages them to share information about children's needs, interests and achievements. Consequently, children have continuity of care, learning and development.
- Children's behaviour is good. The childminder uses praise effectively and children respond with smiles, showing their pleasure.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always give children enough time to respond to the questions she asks, and occasionally intervenes too soon.
- Children are not consistently provided with opportunities to fully promote their mathematical development and understanding.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen good teaching further by ensuring children are given enough time to think about what they want to say and then respond, when asking them questions
- provide further opportunities for children to count and use mathematical language in their everyday routines and activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playroom and outdoor area.
- The inspector sampled children's assessment records, planning documentation and a range of other records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's suitability, training certificates, and her self-evaluation and improvement plans.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector and childminder undertook a joint observation, and discussed the children's learning while they were engaged in the activities.

Inspector

Maureen Sheekey

Inspection findings

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

The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn and develop. She provides a wide range of resources and activities to promote children's progress across the seven areas of learning. Activities are planned to meet children's individual learning needs and interests. For example, the childminder has increased resources to support children's interest in transporting. As a result, children gain the skills that they need for their future learning. The childminder focuses on helping children develop their communication, speaking and listening skills. However, at times when the childminder asks questions she does not pause long enough to give the children time to answer. Children's understanding of the world is very well promoted as they collect natural resources in the garden and on outdoor walks. This enriches the children's investigatory and sensory skills. On occasions, the childminder does not extend the children's understanding of mathematics as she does not encourage children to count their pieces of toast or describe the different shapes when playing in the sand.

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

Children's emotional well-being is effectively promoted. They are relaxed and happy in the childminder's care. She helps children to be confident in social situations and to talk to new people, such as the inspector. The childminder encourages children to gain key skills for independence, which supports them for the next stage in their learning. For example, she encourages the children to use the potty independently and to clean their hands, and prompts them to help get out toys and to tidy up. Outdoor play in the fresh air is incorporated well into the daily routine, promoting children's physical skills and encouraging healthy lifestyles. Children are encouraged to consider and recognise potential risks and dangers as they gradually accept responsibility for their own safety. For example, they help to carry toys out from the summer house, carefully negotiating the steps at the same time.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She is well organised with policies and procedures which underpin her good practice. The environment is safe and secure as the childminder has conducted risk assessments for all areas of her home, and ensures the safety and well-being of children. The childminder attends training in order to improve and inform her practice, for example she recently attended first-aid training to support children's health, before her current certificate has expired. Children's development records are well maintained and show individual observations, planning and assessments demonstrating the good progress children are making. The childminder reflects on her work and is committed to continuous improvement as she has addressed the recommendations from her previous inspection. She welcomes the views of parents who speak highly of the childminder in their written feedback.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY400702
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1014029
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	10 March 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2009 and lives in Stanley. She operates all year round from 7am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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