

Childminder Report

Inspection date

10 April 2018

Previous inspection date

22 June 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Safeguarding is a very high priority. The childminder has an in-depth knowledge and awareness of current child protection procedures which she implements effectively to maintain children's safety and welfare at all times.
- Children thrive in this homely setting and are actively involved in their learning. They have stimulating and varied experiences to choose from which allows them to make very informed choices in their play.
- Partnership working is extremely effective. The childminder has made excellent links with teachers at the local school. This enables her to support the learning that takes place across the two settings. Parents are provided with a wealth of information about their children's care and development needs.
- The childminder values the children's and parent's views. She continually evaluates her practice to help ensure that ongoing quality improvements are implemented.
- Children settle extremely well in the childminder's care and demonstrate excellent behaviour. They form very close relationships with her and demonstrate that they feel very safe and secure.
- The childminder provides high-quality teaching and children make excellent progress in their learning. They demonstrate high levels of motivation and a desire to explore.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to seek ways to develop and ignite children's natural curiosity and maintain their very good learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to and interacted with children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of parents' views through written feedback provided.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living and working within the household.
- The inspector held a discussion with the childminder to evaluate an activity.

Inspector

Anthea Errington

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has an excellent understanding of all aspects of safeguarding and the procedures to follow to protect children. She ensures that very robust safety checks are completed on her home. The childminder continuously uses training opportunities. Information gained from this is extremely well used to enhance her practice further. For example, she was prompted to re-evaluate her record-keeping and information sharing with parents. The childminder continually seeks ways to improve her service. She has highlighted that there is scope to extend children's learning further to ignite their superb curiosity and imagination. Highly positive and trusting partnerships are established with parents who hold her in very high regard. The childminder ensures regular, clear guidance is given to her assistants and suitability checks are in place.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder knows the children extremely well. Interesting activities enthuse children to learn. For example, young children discover pattern, shape and texture and practise writing in trays of lentils, in addition to using sticks to write in the mud. They make excellent progress in their numeracy skills. They skilfully identify numbers and competently count pages of a book, comparing the small and larger numbers. The childminder is very skilled in seizing every possible opportunity to support and challenge children to make excellent progress. She expertly questions them and provides them with time to think about their answers. Children skilfully identify familiar letters in the reading books and recognise it is the same as in their friend's name. Children are very confident to initiate conversations and listen to instructions.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children benefit from the extremely stimulating, child-friendly environment. They feel at ease and explore and play at their own pace. They are highly independent and readily select resources. They display excellent manners and are happy to share and take turns. The childminder's warmth and regular praise helps to promote their self-esteem and confidence well. Her close partnership with parents also contributes to this. Children have excellent opportunities for physical exercise and regularly visit the nearby woodland. With close supervision they know how to keep safe and how to manage tasks, such as safely climbing trees. They enjoy healthy snacks and meals and clearly understand fruit is good for their health.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress from their starting points. They are very sociable and highly motivated. They learn about people who help them, discover the wider world and celebrate various cultural festivals. They learn to take responsibility and become independent from a young age. This helps to prepare them extremely well for their future learning and move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY406992
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	1094233
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	22 June 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2010 and lives in Widdrington. The childminder has two assistants who occasionally work alongside her. She operates all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays from 7.15am to 6pm, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 7.15am until 9am on a Wednesday. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2018

