

Childminder report

Inspection date:

27 September 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children show that they feel safe and secure in the childminder's care through their levels of confidence and assertiveness. They smile and talk to visitors about what they enjoy playing with. Children benefit from exciting experiences learning about the animals that live on the farm at the setting. This includes what they like to eat and how they live. Children develop an understanding of their natural world. They show an understanding of where food comes from and participate in activities, such as growing their own vegetables and flowers. They behave well and follow instructions. For example, they know when it is time to come inside from outdoor play or when to get ready for lunchtime.

Children develop a good mathematical awareness. The childminder uses games and puzzles to develop children's understanding of shape and space. Children correctly match different shapes to the corresponding holes in a puzzle board. They are kind and caring towards others and form strong friendships with one another. For instance, children clap and join in with the childminder, showering others with praise and encouragement. This helps to promote children's self-esteem. Children develop the key skills needed for their eventual move to school.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Children spend time exploring paint using brushes, rollers and their hands. They mix colours together and talk to the childminder about the colours they use. The childminder encourages children to explore the texture of the paint and follows their lead during play. This helps to promote children's creative skills.
- The childminder provides regular information for parents. This includes daily verbal feedback and online updates, including photos of children playing. The childminder completes observations and assessments of children's learning and shares this information with parents. Parents provide positive feedback for the care the childminder gives their children.
- The childminder understands what it is that she wants children to learn. She liaises with parents when children first start at the setting to understand their routine and to ensure she meets their individual needs. The childminder places an emphasis on promoting children's independence. This includes focusing on children's independent play and learning. She encourages children to persevere on self-chosen challenges to help develop their resilience.
- Children engage well in their play and participate in all activities on offer. They play alongside the childminder and talk about different animals they can see on puzzle pieces. However, on occasions, children are unable to sustain high levels of concentration, due to the background noise of the television.
- The childminder works closely with other childminders and liaises with other early years providers and schools where children attend. She completes training

sessions and shares practice ideas with others. This helps her to review and evaluate her practice.

- The childminder completes regular risk assessments and teaches children the importance of keeping themselves safe. Children have access to a large outdoor environment. The childminder has pet dogs as well as farm animals. She encourages children to develop an understanding from an early age about safety awareness.
- Children have access to a range of resources and they can make independent choices in their play. However, the childminder does not consistently review the organisation of the indoor environment to consider ways to promote further challenge to children's learning.
- Children are provided with a range of healthy choices during mealtimes and are physically active in their play. They push wheeled toys and ride around on trikes and scooters in the spacious outdoor area.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of safeguarding practices. She is aware of her responsibility to notify the relevant agencies regarding any concerns. This includes concerns about the safety and well-being of children and allegations against those working with children or a household member. The childminder has completed recent safeguarding training and is aware of signs that children and families could be exposed to extreme views and behaviours, including gangs and crime. She understands her role in reporting and recording concerns. She is aware of the impact of domestic violence on families. The childminder has a safeguarding policy in place that covers the safe use of mobile phones and cameras in her setting.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- minimise distractions to children's learning to ensure that children are able to develop higher levels of concentration
- review the organisation of the indoor environment and consider ways to help provide greater levels of challenge to children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY417165
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	10257181
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Date of previous inspection	7 December 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2010 and lives in Blyth, Northumberland. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6.15pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder sometimes works with an assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Emma Allison

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises their early years provision, including the aims and rationale for their early years foundation stage curriculum.
- Children communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector reviewed information from parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.

We carried out this inspection 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.

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