

Childminder report

Inspection date:

25 September 2024

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

The childminder's curriculum is ambitious for all children. Her teaching is highly effective. The childminder has a superb understanding of how children learn. She assesses children's progress accurately from when they start and makes exceptional use of parents' knowledge about their children. She takes account of children's development stage and personal interests to precisely plan for their learning needs and close any gaps. Children benefit from long periods of uninterrupted time to play and experiment. They remain focused on activities that repeatedly challenge them to learn a new skill. For example, they determinedly try to reach the top of the climbing wall and are praised for their perseverance.

The childminder is exceptionally nurturing and forms extremely close bonds with children and their families. Children thoroughly enjoy the time they spend in this wholly supportive environment. They are very happy and behave extremely well. The childminder is a positive role model. She consistently helps children understand how to behave and to understand that rules and boundaries help keep everybody happy and safe. With this in mind, the childminder plans visits to local gym, dodge ball and music lessons, where children learn to listen to adults and follow simple instructions in a large group. This helps them build tolerance and respect of others' views. The childminder ensures each child thrives as they develop essential skills for future learning.

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

- Children's well-being, safety and safeguarding are central to everything the childminder does. She has highly comprehensive safeguarding and risk assessments in place, especially for outdoor play and the many 'magical' adventures children enjoy in the local community. Children fully embrace the benefits of outdoor learning and demonstrate an excellent understanding of how to manage risks. Improvements made to the garden area since the last inspection have significantly improved children's outcomes in all areas of learning.
- The childminder shows a high level of skill in helping children to feel emotionally and physically secure. Children enthusiastically voice their ideas and thoughts to other children and visitors. For example, they are keen to express their feelings when playing with their favourite figures, articulately describing their feelings on their adventures. Children's self-esteem and independence skills are actively nurtured.
- The childminder uses a superb commentary and challenging questions as children play. She models language very well. This language-rich environment means children's spoken language, thinking and imaginative skills exceed expected levels of learning for their age group.

- The childminder helps children learn how to keep safe and healthy very effectively. She helps them grow and eat their own fruit and vegetables to encourage the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. Children tell the inspector they know they must wait for a green tomato to turn red before they can eat it. They know good food and water makes their bodies and teeth healthy and strong.
- The childminder has extremely strong relationships with parents. She regularly shares ideas with them to help continue their child's learning at home. Additionally, they share story bags and home adventure books to build on children's interests and help widen their vocabulary. Parents comment that the childminder 'puts children's health and well-being as a priority' and has created 'a loving, caring and nurturing environment for children'. They say she 'prepares children amazingly well for going to school'.
- Every year, the childminder invites teachers from the local school to visit her home and meet the children to share in their learning and progress. This gives children confidence and an undeniable excitement about joining the school and its nursery.
- The childminder is constantly reflecting on the service she provides to enhance outcomes for children even more. She has undertaken early years professional development training to continue to improve her already outstanding interactions with children. She regularly listens to child development pod casts, webinars and online articles then reflects on what this means for her children. For example, she understands pausing for children to think through their ideas is imperative in helping children to develop critical thinking skills for problem-solving. As a result, the childminder weaves science, technology, engineering and mathematics discussions throughout the activities and experiences she plans for children. Children are inspired and very determined problem solvers. They develop a thirst for learning and really enjoy leading their play and exploration.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY540180
Local authority	Hartlepool Borough
Inspection number	10354506
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 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	27 November 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2016 and lives in Hartlepool, County Durham. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years foundation degree. The childminder receives funding to provide free early years education to children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Jan Harvey

Inspection activities

- 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.
- 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 childminder spoke to the inspector about children's learning and development, with a particular focus on communication and language.
- The inspector viewed parents' written feedback and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke to children, to find out about their time at the setting.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.

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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