

Childminder Report

Inspection date	13 August 2015
Previous inspection date	24 November 2011

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

- The quality of teaching is good because the childminder provides children with a wide range of fun and exciting learning experiences. This means children show interest and motivation throughout their play.
- The childminder has established good relationships with parents. She actively encourages them to share information about their children's achievements from home that helps to create a consistent approach.
- Children are happy, settled and content in the friendly and homely environment. The childminder is caring and sensitive to children's individual needs and offers constant support, guidance and reassurance. This helps to promote children's well-being.
- The childminder has developed good links with local primary schools that helps to support children with their future move. She shares relevant information with teachers to enable her to complement children's learning.
- Children are cared for in a safe and secure environment. The childminder successfully implements a wide range of written policies, procedures and risk assessments that help to protect children's welfare.
- The childminder has a strong understanding of how to safeguard children. She knows the procedures to follow if she has any concerns and is fully aware of possible signs and symptoms of abuse.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always help children to extend their early reading skills.
- The childminder does not always make the best use of opportunities to support children to explore and experiment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to begin to understand that print carries meaning
- build on opportunities to develop children's exploration and investigation skills further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas accessed by the children.
- The inspector observed play and learning opportunities for the children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at and discussed a range of records, policies and procedures with the childminder, including evidence of qualifications and the suitability of all adults in the household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written questionnaires obtained by the childminder.

Inspector

Rachel Enright

Inspection findings

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

The childminder regularly observes and assesses children to ensure they make good progress. She uses effective systems to track children's ongoing progress, which helps her to quickly identify and address any gaps in their learning and development. This means children gain a good range of skills needed for the next stage in their learning at school. The childminder interacts well with children and effectively promotes their communication and language development. She continually talks to children during their play, asks relevant questions, models language and introduces new vocabulary. Children develop their early writing skills as they show an interest in making different marks as they create pictures. However, children have fewer opportunities to develop their early reading skills and their understanding that print carries meaning. The childminder supports children's understanding of the world as they learn about different cultures and explore a selection of festivals. Children show concentration and thoroughly enjoy using small-world resources. However, the childminder misses opportunities to support children's exploration and investigation skills during their imaginary play.

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

Children are starting to develop a good understanding of how to keep themselves safe and healthy. The childminder involves children in safety routines and provides them with a wide selection of nutritious meals and snacks. In addition, children understand the importance of keeping themselves hydrated throughout the day and independently use the water dispenser. The childminder makes good use of community activities and arranges regular outings in the local area. This helps to promote children's physical skills and supports their personal, social and emotional development as they mix with others. Children behave well because the childminder uses a calm and consistent approach to reinforce the boundaries and expectations. She uses regular praise and encouragement, which helps children to feel confident and self-assured.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of how to implement the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She is qualified to level 3 and has attended relevant training. The childminder shows a commitment to further her professional development to ensure she continually refreshes her skills and knowledge. In addition, she has established good relationships with other childminders, which enables her to share ideas and suggestions. The childminder uses self-evaluation and understands the importance of reflecting on her daily practice to enhance future learning opportunities for children. This shows a good capacity to maintain continuous improvement. Parents share their views and opinions through written questionnaires. They make comments, such as, 'I would recommend the childminder to anyone as she has been wonderful with my child' and, 'Thank you to the childminder for helping my child to settle in and for the support she has given me as a parent'.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY429477
Local authority	Hartlepool
Inspection number	852990
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	24 November 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Hartlepool, Cleveland. The childminder operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She has a childcare qualification at level 3.

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