

Inspection date	12 February 2015
Previous inspection date	2 November 2009

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 childminder has a secure knowledge of how children learn and uses this knowledge to plan exciting experiences across the seven areas of learning.
- Children are confident and motivated to learn because the childminder praises children as they achieve and maintains a nurturing and positive environment.
- Children are developing the skills they need for future learning as they are encouraged to be independent at all times by the childminder.
- Children are kept safe due to effective safeguarding procedures, risk assessment and frequent fire drills carried out by the childminder.
- The childminder makes good use of the training she has attended, which enables her to monitor and improve her practice to benefit children in her care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always challenge children's mathematical skills, by teaching them about quantity and measure during activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the quality of teaching, in order for older children to be challenged and learn mathematical skills, such as quantity and measure.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a tour of the setting.
- The inspector observed children during activities indoors and in the garden area.
- The inspector looked at children's records and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures and risk assessments.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through letters and comments.

Inspector

Rebecca Stead

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 knowledge of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. All children, including children who speak English as an additional language are progressing well towards the early learning goals. This is because the childminder places a strong focus on challenging children as they learn, according to their individual needs. The childminder observes children and tracks children's development and shares this information with parents. Consequently, she has a good knowledge of children's skills and uses this knowledge to plan exciting and interesting activities across the seven areas of learning. Children have access to a wide range of resources such as a role-play kitchen, various games and an exciting book corner to explore. Children use physical skills to bake cakes with the support of the childminder. They learn new vocabulary because the childminder discusses colour and texture with children. However, there is scope for children to learn mathematical skills, such as measure and quantity, during activities, in order for older children to be challenged further.

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

The childminder has developed strong attachments to children in her care. This is because she provides a warm, nurturing and positive environment for children to learn in. Parents are encouraged to share information through a daily diary system and effective settling-in procedures ensure children are emotionally prepared for their next stage of learning. Children have every opportunity to be independent during their day with the childminder. They learn to put on their own coats to play outside and butter their own teacakes during snack-time routines. Children have access to plenty of activities, which promote their physical development and encourage them to be healthy. They are offered a healthy, well-balanced diet according to their individual dietary needs. The childminder praises and encourages children as they achieve and they are confident and self-motivated to learn.

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

The childminder keeps children safe whilst they attend the setting. She implements effective risk assessments at all times, to ensure children are safe from any risk of harm. The childminder places a strong emphasis on partnership working and has developed good links with local schools and nursery settings so that children have the best start when they make their move to school. The childminder attends various training courses and has a childcare qualification. She uses this knowledge to effectively monitor and evaluate her practice and children's progress records so that they can benefit from quality care and learning. The childminder is aware of her areas for improvement and offers parents every opportunity to be involved in this process through the use of questionnaires. Parents write letters which speak highly of the quality of care and learning the childminder provides for their children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	315115
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	871975
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	2 November 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1996. She lives in a house in Warrington. She operates all year round from 7.30 to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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