

Inspection date	5 February 2015
Previous inspection date	28 March 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 promotes children's independence so they are confident to play and explore the environment. They are happy and feel safe in her home.
- The childminder plans varied and challenging activities to help children develop. She supports children's emerging communication and language skills by modelling correct pronunciation and repeating words back to them. As a result, children make good progress in this aspect of their learning.
- Children behave well as the childminder encourages respect for others, provides a calm environment and acts as a good role model.
- The childminder has made an accurate evaluation of her strengths and weaknesses; this enables her to improve and focus her own development to benefit the children she cares for.
- Well-established partnerships with parents ensure they are kept well informed of their child's progress. A regular exchange of information ensures that activities provided follow children's interests and are tailored to meet their individual needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has arrangements in place to check children's progress. However, a new system recently introduced is not clear enough to ensure checking is thorough.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to establish the arrangements for checking children's progress so that tracking across all learning areas is clearer.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises and garden used for childminding.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of the provider, as well as her self-evaluation form.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the provider.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day and from information included in the providers records.

Inspector

Elizabeth Grocott

Inspection findings

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

The childminders good understanding of her role in promoting children's learning enables them to make good progress. Children's achievements and development are successfully assessed when they are two-years-old. This means the childminder knows if she is providing appropriate challenge or if there are any gaps in development. Space to play freely, explore and select activities means children develop curiosity and learn to experiment confidently. They enjoy investigating by making marks with their fingers in paint. Toy boxes are used for climbing into and children persist when they get stuck while trying to climb out again. The childminder encourages them to take risks. Numbers are used in everyday routines to promote learning. Children have uninterrupted time to play, join community activities and understand their world; looking out of the window at passing tractors. As a result of skilful teaching children make good progress in their learning; this prepares them well for the next stage in their development.

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

Children are effectively supported as detailed information from parents enables the childminder to provide familiar routines. Children's confidence develops as they begin to concentrate on tasks, such as puzzles for extended periods. They develop good social skills sitting at the table when eating and using manners well. Children become familiar with change, such as moving to a new setting, when they visit local schools with the childminder. With encouragement, younger children develop independence by learning to take their own socks off, and feeding themselves. Good hygiene practices are promoted as the youngest children learn to clean their own hands before snack. Outdoor play helps them to be active, promotes a healthy lifestyle and engage in physical play.

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

Children are kept safe through a good assessment of risk and clear understanding of safeguarding procedures. Accurate evaluation of her provision and plans for future learning are well targeted for ongoing improvement. The childminder makes good use of support offered by the local authority and reads articles on childcare websites, using the information to enrich her work. She provides daily information to parents about children's activities and encourages them to view children's learning records. Regular requests for information about children's interests and achievements at home, enables good partnership working. This also ensures parents have regular updates about their children's progress. Parents report that the childminder consistently builds on what their children already know and has a 'brilliant rapport' with them. Children's development is checked regularly. However, the newly introduced system to track children's progress is not clear enough to ensure that all learning areas are equally observed.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY428260
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	1006337
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	28 March 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2010. She lives with her son in a house in the Grappenhall area of Cheshire. The ground floor and rear garden are used for childminding. The childminder has an appropriate level 3 qualification and operates all year from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday with the exception of bank holidays and family holidays.

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