

Inspection date

5 March 2015

Previous inspection date

14 December 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 clear understanding of the procedure to follow should she have concerns for a child's welfare. Her knowledge is underpinned by a robust safeguarding policy. As a result, children are protected from harm.
- Effective partnerships with parents are in place. The childminder asks parents to contribute to her assessment of children's learning. This means they are fully aware of their children's progress and are able to continue their learning at home.
- The childminder has developed effective systems to ensure children's safety. She assesses risks in the home and on outings and completes training in health and safety. She ensures her assistant has appropriate training and support to have sole care of children for a short period each day.
- The childminder has created an exceptionally calm and caring environment for children. She very effectively meets each child's individual needs by closely observing them and interacting sensitively with them. Children enjoy her company very much, as a result.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Most of the childminder's varied resources are manmade. This means that children have fewer opportunities to explore and investigate natural resources on a daily basis.
- Children's experience of art is often through painting or sticking on pre-printed sheets. This means that their opportunities for individual creativity are not always fully considered or given high priority.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the opportunities for children to explore and investigate by providing them with a wider range of natural materials and sensory resources
- review the creative activities that are adult-led, so that children have more opportunities to express their individual creativity.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children as appropriate during observations and checked organisational documents, such as training and first-aid certificates, risk assessments and the safeguarding policy.
- The inspector examined children's enrolment records, learning files and checked documents, such as registers and forms to record medication administered.
- The inspector discussed the progress children have made with the childminder to assess her knowledge of children's learning and development.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises used for childminding and checked the evidence of suitability of other adults living and working in the home.

Inspector

Valerie Aspinall

Inspection findings

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

Children are making good progress in their learning because the childminder accurately assesses their development and plans interesting activities to extend their learning further. Regular summaries of children's progress are shared with parents, allowing them to contribute to their child's next steps. The childminder is a natural teacher who extends children's learning by providing activities she knows they enjoy and sensitively joining in their play. For example, when children play doctors, she introduces new vocabulary, such as patient, swollen and examination. She asks questions to help them think, such as 'How did you hurt yourself?' and provides additional props. Consequently, children return to the game repeatedly, exploring and extending their own ideas. As a result, children are becoming good communicators and learning about the wider world. However, children do not have many opportunities to express their artistic creativity without the aim of producing a similar end product.

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

The childminder has developed excellent relationships with children. Children thrive in the calm and friendly atmosphere she has created. Children of varying ages play cooperatively together. They share resources and help each other and are very well behaved. For example, a young child goes to retrieve another child's special teddy from the playroom when, playing outdoors, she asks for it. Children are learning to become independent. They help to tidy up, wash their own hands and put on their own coats. They learn to take appropriate risks as they negotiate the steps on the slide. These developing skills ensure that they will be ready for school, when the time comes. Healthy meals and snacks, colourful posters and daily energetic play outdoors, all contribute to children's growing understanding of healthy lifestyles. However, resources generally, though varied, are largely manmade. As a result, children do not have daily opportunities to explore and investigate natural resources.

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

The childminder has a robust knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage due to her previous experiences working in early years settings, her level 3 qualification and her commitment to ongoing professional development. She frequently attends training courses and reflects on her practice to ensure children make continued progress in their learning. For example, she wants to access a training course to give her new ideas to support children's learning in maths. She has implemented effective systems to manage her setting and is proactive in building relationships with key people, should children attend other settings. The childminder attends local play groups, parks and soft play centres with other childminder's. This helps children get used to busier environments, in preparation for school and helps the childminder to share ideas for good practice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY289792
Local authority	Wigan
Inspection number	861349
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	11
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	14 December 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2004 and lives in Leigh. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and sometimes works with an assistant.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

