

Inspection date	6 March 2015
Previous inspection date	8 July 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 good understanding of how children learn. She makes good use of opportunities to promote their development through well-planned activities. Consequently, children make good progress and enjoy their time at the childminder's home.
- There is a stimulating environment consisting of a broad range of age-appropriate resources, which children can use in a variety of ways. This encourages communication skills and children stay motivated and eager to learn.
- The childminder has developed effective partnerships with parents. Children's overall development is discussed in detail to ensure that their individual care needs and emotional well-being are promoted.
- The childminder has a good understanding of safeguarding issues and how to respond if she has any concerns. As a result, children are kept safe.
- The childminder evaluates her own practice to identify relevant areas for improvement, and carefully considers the needs of the children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Partnerships with the nursery that some children attend do not extend to sharing information about children's progress and learning.
- Children have fewer opportunities to see number sequence and shape recognition in the indoor environment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance partnerships with the local nursery that some minded children attend, in order to support a more shared approach to children's ongoing learning and progress
- build on children's awareness of early mathematical skills even further, by enhancing the learning environment so that children learn about numbers and shapes during their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector sampled children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder and looked at a selection of policies and procedures, including safeguarding, risk assessments and self-evaluation.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by reading a number of comments and notes given to the childminder.
- The inspector carried out a tour of the premises.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Alison Regan

Inspection findings

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

The childminder plans a varied range of activities and experiences for children suitable for their stage of development and their varying abilities. Young children develop their physical skills as they use their feet to steer the toy car in different directions. Older children use magnifying glasses to investigate natural objects, such as pine cones and leaves. They skilfully link the objects to pictures in a book and the childminder asks appropriate questions to extend and challenge learning further. As a result, children are prepared for the next stage in their learning and their eventual move to school. The childminder provides a range of resources that are easily accessible to children, which supports them to make their own choices. Children show an interest in mathematics as they discuss the different sizes of the plants that grow in the garden. However, children are not always provided with opportunities to extend on their awareness of mathematics during their play, as there are limited resources available in the indoor environment.

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

The childminder develops strong bonds with the children and this supports them to feel safe and secure in her care and promotes their emotional well-being. Children's transition into the setting is managed well and settling-in visits are offered as required, so children become familiar with their new surroundings. The childminder works closely with parents to ensure their children's routines are followed. This provides consistency in care and their individual needs are catered for. The childminder promotes children's independence; for example, they are encouraged to put their coats on independently in preparation to go outside. The childminder takes children out to places in the community to talk about the world around them. This provides children with new experiences, which successfully promotes their learning. Children are well supported in developing a good understanding of how to manage their behaviour appropriately.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of her role in meeting the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. As a result, children make particularly good progress in their early communication skills and in their physical, social and emotional development. The childminder accesses further training to extend her knowledge about how children learn. This helps her to identify how she can implement new ideas to meet the individual needs of children in her care. The childminder understands the importance of working in partnership with other settings. However, knowledge and ideas about how to move children forward even further in their learning and development are not consistently shared with other settings. As a result, her planning and assessments do not account for children's wider achievements and experiences. The childminder seeks feedback from parents and carers regarding the care she provides. Parents comment that their children have made progress in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	315149
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	868282
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	8 July 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2000 and lives in Padgate, Warrington. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Tuesday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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