

Childminder Report

Inspection date

23 April 2015

Previous inspection date

10 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 good knowledge of how children learn. A variety of teaching techniques are tailored to the children's individual abilities to ensure that all children make progress in their learning.
- The childminder provides activities that are varied, interesting and fun. The childminder mostly ensures that she carefully tailors activities to suit children's interests and needs.
- The childminder is well qualified and keeps her training up to date. She has attended a recent paediatric first-aid course and a child protection refresher course. Consequently, she clearly knows how to act quickly if she has any concerns about a child's welfare, in order to keep them safe and well.
- The childminder works in very close partnership with parents and carers. These partnerships are effective in promoting high-quality care and education, which meets all of children's individual needs.
- Children build strong attachments with the childminder, meaning that they are emotionally secure and this promotes children's confidence and self-motivation.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always give parents and carers examples of how to support children's learning at home, to help children make even better progress in their learning and development.
- Occasionally, planned adult-led activities are not well adapted to suit younger children. As a result, their learning is not always best promoted during these times.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the effective partnerships with parents and carers, to encourage more frequent information sharing about how they can guide their children's learning and development at home
- maximise opportunities to promote younger children's learning further by reviewing the organisation and teaching of planned adult-led activities.

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

All children make good progress in their learning. This is because the childminder routinely observes and assesses children's development, in order to discover what is next in their learning. She uses her knowledge to plan and provide activities that encourage children to practise and develop the skills required for their future learning and eventually school. She guides children's interactions and play, in order to support their interests and extend their learning. For example, older children request to have a picnic for lunch and play outside, which she promptly responds to. Younger children enjoy exploring books which promotes their early literacy skills. The childminder provides additional resources and actively encourages them to freely explore their environment. However, during some adult-led activities the childminder is not as finely tuned into younger children's learning needs. She tends to base these activities mainly around the needs of the older children and offers younger children an opportunity to become involved. Therefore, on these occasions, their specific learning is not always equally well promoted.

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

Children settle very quickly in the warm, welcoming atmosphere created by the childminder. Children's physical skills are promoted in the setting as children have daily access to the outdoors, such as in the garden. The childminder takes children out to places in the community, such as the local playgroup. This provides children with new experiences and opportunities to interact with other children and adults. The childminder sets clear, consistent and age-appropriate boundaries for the children and is a positive role model. Consequently, children display positive behaviour and they are confident and motivated learners. The childminder ensures children's individual dietary needs are met through providing a balanced healthy menu. The childminder ensures that children maintain good hygiene procedures as she ensures they wash their hands after playing outside or before meals. Children are encouraged to be independent as they are able to select resources in the environment.

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

The childminder's good understanding of the learning and development requirements equips her to ensure children make good progress. The childminder undertakes a regular overview of children's development in the seven areas of learning. The childminder works in partnership with parents to support their child's learning. She gains information from parents when children first start and shares children's assessments at regular intervals. However, she has not yet explored all ways in which to share children's learning, so that parents become more involved with their child's learning at home. The childminder knows how to safeguard children from harm. She can identify the signs and symptoms of abuse, and knows the procedure to follow if she has any concerns about a child in her care. The childminder has effective systems in place to improve the quality of her provision. These systems allow her to identify areas of weakness which she feels needs development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY392518
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	859446
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	10 December 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2009 and lives in Warrington, Cheshire. She operates all year round, from 8 am to 6pm, Tuesday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant qualification at level 5. The childminder provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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