

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 May 2015

Previous inspection date

14 May 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 quality of teaching is consistently good as the childminder makes good use of training to promote her professional development and children's learning. For example, she has gained a recognised early years qualification at level 3.
- The childminder knows children well and has a good understanding of how they learn through their interests. As a result, she plans exciting and challenging activities, which support children's individual needs.
- The childminder is sensitive, loving and attentive, ensuring each child is made to feel special. Consequently, children build secure attachments, are happy, settled and clearly enjoy her company.
- The childminder ensures partnerships with other settings and professionals are thoroughly established. As a result, information is shared and the children are experiencing continuity in learning.
- Children are safe and secure because the childminder has a very strong commitment to safeguard them. She has a robust understanding of what to do in the event that they are at risk of harm or abuse.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always effectively use information about children's learning at home to enhance planning for their next steps in learning.
- The childminder does not always make the best use of mark-making resources to promote children's early writing skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make even better use of the information parents share about children's learning at home, to assess and plan even more effectively, so they make rapid progress
- enhance the mark-making areas by moving all resources to child height, in order for them to be fully accessible and promote children's creativity and early writing.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder's practice and her engagement with children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector viewed all areas of the premises used by the children.
- The inspector reviewed relevant documentation, including children's learning journals, and a sample of policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability of household members and recent training and qualifications completed by the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder about her self-evaluation process and took an account of the views of parents through letters and comments.

Inspector

Marina Howarth

Inspection findings

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

The childminder effectively supports children's good progress. She speaks slowly and repeats words to support young children learning to speak and encourages older children to recall familiar stories as they engage in story time. The childminder regularly observes and reviews children's progress across all areas of learning. She understands the importance of working in partnership with parents and gathers comprehensive information about children's starting points, individual interests and needs. However, she does not always reflect in her assessments, the information parents share about children's learning at home. Therefore, planning for children's next steps in learning is not always sharply focused to maximise future learning. The childminder is skilled in providing children with a balance of adult-led and child-initiated play activities, which interest them and challenge their thinking. Older children enthusiastically use their imagination as they pretend to 'come to the rescue' using small boats, while engaged in water play. Young infants enjoy exploring bubbles, which they scoop up with their hands and squelch between their fingers, developing their sensory awareness.

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

Children are warmly welcomed into a child-friendly, stimulating environment. Children's independence is promoted as they are encouraged to manage their own self-care routines. They eagerly make choices as toys and resources are located at low level. However, some mark-making resources are not within easy reach. Consequently, children who enjoy mark making cannot extend their creativity and early writing skills at all times. Effective settling-in procedures and detailed information gathered from parents ensure children's individual needs are met effectively. As a result, children are happy and confident. Children's behaviour is good as they are encouraged to respect and value each other's needs through activities that involve turn taking and playing cooperatively. Healthy lifestyles are encouraged as the childminder ensures children are provided with nutritious meals and snacks. Regular outdoor opportunities for children to develop their physical skills, such as playing on large climbing equipment as they visit the park, results in them being content, healthy and alert.

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

The childminder demonstrates an excellent understanding of her responsibilities to deliver the learning and development, and safeguarding and welfare requirements. Her strong focus on continuous improvement and her own continued professional development means she is able to improve her skills, therefore, her provision for all children. The childminder plans meaningful experiences tailored to children's specific needs. As a result, children are motivated and eager to learn. Policies and procedures are robust and implemented well to ensure all children are safeguarded. The childminder establishes good relationships with parents and other settings that children attend, to promote continuity in children's care. As a result, children are prepared well for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	301301
Local authority	Oldham
Inspection number	871678
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	14 May 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1992 and lives in the Greenfield area of Oldham. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
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