

Childminder Report

Inspection date

29 May 2015

Previous inspection date

14 December 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The quality of teaching is outstanding. The childminder is an extremely skilled practitioner, who effectively extends children's learning through highly effective adult-led and child-initiated activities.
- The childminder uses her expert knowledge to enhance children's learning. She makes precise observations and assessments that focus on children's abilities. The childminder plans exciting and challenging activities to support the next steps in their learning. Consequently, children are extremely well prepared for the next stage of learning.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent. The childminder has highly effective systems in place to ensure a two-way flow of communication is consistently maintained. Therefore, parents feel involved and are extremely happy with the level of care and education their children receive.
- The childminder has an excellent understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She has robust policies and procedures in place. The childminder is very confident in the procedures to follow to address any child protection issues.
- The childminder is a highly reflective practitioner. She consistently monitors and evaluates her provision and makes continual changes to her practice to drive improvement.
- The childminder gives high priority to assisting children to lead a healthy lifestyle. Children help the childminder to grow fruit and vegetables and enjoy many visits and trips in the local area and beyond.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop the already exceptionally resourced outdoor area, for example by increasing the use of natural and sensory items that aid children's exploration and investigation even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed premises, toys and equipment.
- The inspector observed the childminder playing and interacting with the children.
- The inspector talked to the childminder and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's qualifications and the suitability of adult household members.
- The inspector looked at and discussed the childminders self-evaluation and improvement plan.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents made in children's files and from questionnaires and feedback forms.

Inspector

Donna Birch

Inspection findings

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

Children have access to a highly stimulating learning environment. This is used extremely well by the childminder to help children develop their confidence and independence. Children develop their imaginations and early reading skills. They select books and use the information from these to create their own pictures. Children are very articulate and clearly describe their ideas, as they draw with pens and pencils and manipulate the dough. Children make dinosaurs and discuss the differences in size, shape and habitat. Their ideas are expertly extended by the childminder, because she uses many varied questioning techniques to extend children's thinking and vocabulary. Children are very eager to have a go at new experiences. They use scissors to snip paper and card. Children are supported to succeed. The childminder offers constant praise and encouragement and allows children the freedom to choose items of interest and follow their own thinking. As a result, children develop their creativity and critical thinking skills.

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

Children benefit greatly from having easy access from the playrooms to the extensively resourced outdoor area. While outdoors, children dig in the soil and sand and enjoy filling and emptying various containers. Children transport resources and make 'volcano lava' as they mix soil and glitter. The childminder has incorporated some natural and sensory items that can be used in a variety of different ways, to extend children's exploration and investigation. However, these are not yet maximised in the outdoors. The childminder's constant positive attitude ensures she is an excellent role model for children. Children understand the house rules and play cooperatively together. Children have extremely positive relationships with the childminder and she is attentive to their individual needs. Settling-in sessions are flexible and work extremely well. Children develop their very good independence and self-help skills at mealtimes. The childminder includes children in tasks such as chopping fruit and pouring their own drinks. Children independently manage their own personal hygiene needs.

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

The childminder is extremely proactive in ensuring the quality of the service she provides. Excellent systems are in place to monitor children's progress precisely. This information is shared with all included in children's learning and consequently, children make optimum progress. The childminder has developed strong links in the local community. She uses her expert knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage to support other childminders and parents. Meticulous attention is given to self-evaluation and the childminder makes improvements that benefit children and their families the most. The childminder is well qualified and is committed to continuous professional development. She has accessed many courses to enhance her already excellent knowledge. The childminder holds a valid first-aid qualification.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY308983
Local authority	Wigan
Inspection number	861975
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	14 December 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2000 and lives in Wigan, Lancashire. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has an early years qualification at level 4.

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