

Childminder Report

Inspection date

1 June 2015

Previous inspection date

21 January 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 supports children to be inquisitive in their play. For example, she teaches them about magnets by role modelling and explaining how they work, allowing children to experiment and test out their own ideas, which supports their thinking skills.
- The childminder holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3, which gives her a good understanding of how children learn.
- The childminder has built good relationships with children. As a result, they are happy and confident in her care, regularly going to her for a cuddle or to sit on her knee.
- Children settle easily into the childminder's care because she gathers a good range of information from parents when their children first start to attend.
- The childminder monitors the progress children make, which gives her a good knowledge of each individual child. Therefore, she provides activities that support all children to make good progress in their learning and development.
- The childminder undertakes training in order to enhance the outcomes for children. For example, she has attended training on how children make marks and has developed a range of opportunities for children to make marks in their play, which helps to enhance their literacy skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not fully utilised her relationships with staff at other settings, in order to create a fully consistent approach to supporting teaching and learning.
- Children's wider understanding of the relevance of daily healthy lifestyle practices is not promoted to the full.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen existing partnerships with other early years providers to consistently share information about children's learning, in order to complement and support their individual developmental needs
- build on opportunities for children to increase their awareness of the importance of healthy lifestyles through daily routines.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the interactions between the childminder and children during play.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at documents relating to the Early Years Foundation Stage, provided by the childminder, including children's assessment records and evidence of the suitability of the childminder and other adults in the household.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector considered the views of parents, and discussed the childminder's self-evaluation.

Inspector

Joanne Ryan

Inspection findings

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

The childminder encourages children to share resources and to care for each other, which promotes their social skills. She reads stories and sings songs with children to enhance their communication and language skills. As a result, they are acquiring the key skills that are required for the next stage in their learning. Children enjoy threading shapes onto laces, which helps to develop their physical skills and concentration. The childminder talks to staff at other settings that children attend. However, she has not fully developed a consistent system to share information about children's learning and development, to ensure continuity. Children make good progress in their physical development, as they engage in a range of activities, such as visits to the park and farm, dancing to music and playing in the garden.

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

The childminder has created a balancing beam for children to balance on and tyres for them to climb on, which provides them with opportunities to take risks in the outdoor environment. Children are learning about healthy lifestyles and how to care for living things through growing potatoes and sweet peas. However, the childminder does not always take full advantage of opportunities during the daily routine to enhance children's understanding of why they need to follow good hygiene routines. For example, when they wipe their noses and then have to wash their hands. The childminder works closely with parents and completes a daily diary, which outlines what children have been doing and learning. She also talks to parents at the end of each day and shares children's folders of achievements with them. Therefore, parents are well informed and able to continue children's learning at home.

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

Since the last inspection, the childminder has made several improvements to her practice. For example, she has created a dedicated playroom where resources are freely available to children, which means they have a greater choice of what they want to play with. She has also renovated the outdoor provision to create opportunities for children to develop all seven areas of learning in the outdoor environment, which demonstrates a good capacity to improve. The childminder accesses training and shares practice with other childminders to continue to identify areas for improvement. She seeks parents' views through questionnaires, and parents demonstrate they are happy with the service the childminder offers. The childminder's daughter occasionally works with her as an assistant. The childminder has undertaken an induction with her assistant, ensuring that she is clear about her role and responsibilities. The childminder regularly talks with her assistant about her childminding practice to make sure that she is kept up to date. The childminder has a good knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse and is clear on the procedure to follow, should a concern about a child's welfare arise.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY102489
Local authority	Bury
Inspection number	872415
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	21 January 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2002 and lives in Bury. She operates all year round from 7.45am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3. The childminder occasionally works with an assistant who is her daughter.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
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M1 2WD

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