

Childminder Report

Inspection date

8 June 2015

Previous inspection date

24 September 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 provides a broad range of activities for children. As a result, children are motivated to learn, develop their knowledge and make good progress ready for school.
- The childminder gives high priority to making sure children are provided with a nutritious and varied diet, including freshly made fruit juices. This contributes significantly to children's good health.
- The childminder demonstrates a strong commitment to improving her service and her own professional development through training. She has completed a formal childcare qualification at level 3 since her last inspection, which has had a good impact on the outcomes for children's learning.
- The childminder develops good working relationships with parents. This means information is shared effectively, which promotes consistency in children's care. Parents express positive comments about the service they receive, which shows they have trust in the childminder.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always make the most of opportunities to promote counting with children.
- The childminder does not always make the most of all opportunities for children to see words written down and understand that print carries meaning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of opportunities that arise to develop children's counting skills, so they make even better progress in this area of their mathematical development
- extend the opportunities for children to see words written down and understand that print carries meaning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector toured the premises and observed the childminder and children in the downstairs rooms of the house and the garden.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a selection of children's records and policies, and checked evidence of the childminder's suitability and all people living on the premises.
- The inspector made observations of and discussed the outcome of a planned activity with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of written comments from parents provided by the childminder.

Inspector

Diane Turner

Inspection findings

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

The childminder is confident in her teaching. Overall, she successfully promotes children's development across the seven areas of learning. For example, children enjoy observing birds at the nearby nature reserve and are keen to use magnifying glasses to look closely at the snails they find in the garden. Children enthusiastically explore story sacks and enjoy using props, such as puppets, to retell a story, which helps them to become confident communicators. Children have free access to a wide range of toys and resources that help them develop independence in their learning. The childminder is close by to offer support when needed. For example, she helps children to follow instructions in a book when they want to make a paper aeroplane. The childminder enables children to develop their creativity through activities, such as icing biscuits. However, she sometimes misses opportunities to reinforce children's understanding of mathematical concepts, such as counting how many decorations they add to their biscuit. Children's names are displayed so they learn to recognise familiar words. However, the childminder has not fully explored other ways to enable children to see words written down and understand that print carries meaning, to further support them in developing their early reading skills.

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

The childminder provides a welcoming environment and develops close relationships with all children, which means they feel secure. The childminder ensures children know what is expected of them. This means they behave safely and responsibly. She acknowledges children's efforts and achievements with praise. Consequently, children feel good about themselves. Children have good opportunities to be active and engage in physical play in the garden and at the local park, to promote their good health. They benefit from regular trips to playgroups, the library and a music group. This means children develop their social skills ready to move on to nursery or school.

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

Overall, the childminder understands the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She knows what she must do if she has a concern about a child in her care and regularly reviews risks in the environment. The childminder keeps a close check on how well children are developing and plans effectively for their next steps, to move their learning on. She keeps parents well informed of their child's progress by providing a termly summary of their development. Effective partnerships with other settings help maintain continuity for children as they move between provisions. The childminder regularly evaluates her service and includes parents and children in this. Consequently, she knows what is working well and what she can improve on.

Setting details

Unique reference number	401970
Local authority	York
Inspection number	868949
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	17
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	24 September 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2001 and lives on the outskirts of York city centre. She operates Monday to Friday all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. She holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

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