

Childminder Report

Inspection date

8 July 2015

Previous inspection date

10 June 2011

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 plans varied, interesting and exciting experiences for the children that are based on their individual interests.
- Children are engaged in their play as the childminder encourages them to experiment and explore, for example, with quantities or weights.
- Children make independent choices about what they would like to do within the well-resourced, welcoming and vibrant learning environment.
- The childminder has close, caring relationships with the children. She effectively promotes their emotional well-being, developing their feelings of self-confidence and self-esteem.
- Children behave well as the childminder is clear about her expectations and the rules of her setting.
- The childminder has a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She ensures all legal requirements are met, effectively promoting children's development and welfare.
- The childminder has a very good understanding of child protection issues. She has implemented robust procedures to follow in order to correctly report any concerns regarding children's welfare.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, the childminder does not make the best use of her teaching and questioning skills to extend children's critical thinking.
- The childminder does not always use information gained from her evaluations to develop her own teaching and practice further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use questions more effectively during activities and general play to extend children's ability to think critically
- evaluate teaching more robustly and use this information to raise practice to an outstanding level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector considered the views of parents recorded by the childminder.
- The inspector had a tour of the areas used for childminding and observed activities in the indoor area.
- The inspector jointly evaluated activities with the childminder and discussed her self-evaluation form.
- The inspector reviewed a range of operational documents including policies, consent forms and children's learning records.
- The inspector reviewed evidence of the suitability of the childminder and other adults in her home, and sampled her qualifications.

Inspector

Lauren Grocott

Inspection findings

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

The childminder skilfully motivates and engages children in enjoyable activities that cover all areas of learning. Children's skills and interests are monitored using good quality observations. The childminder tracks children's progress and development on a regular basis, sharing this information with parents. This ensures that, where concerns arise regarding children's development, interventions are sought to support them. The childminder obtains detailed developmental information about children when they first begin attending. She uses this information well to develop and consolidate children's learning. Children enjoy their time with the childminder. They are keen to engage with her, developing their imaginative, physical and creative skills as they move materials around using small-world construction vehicles. Their understanding of the local community and social skills are well promoted through regular outings and opportunities to play with other minded children. The childminder is less effective, however, in using questioning to develop children's critical-thinking skills.

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

The childminder effectively promotes children's emotional readiness for the move on to school. She takes children on outings near to the school to familiarise them with the journey. The childminder is vigilant and identifies any potential hazards to children's safety and minimises these effectively. Children are encouraged to manage small, appropriate risks by themselves. For example, they notice that craft items are sharp and acknowledge that they must be careful when using them. Children's understanding of keeping themselves healthy is promoted effectively. They follow robust hygiene procedures and understand why this is important. They have plenty of exercise, fresh air and active play to promote their physical well-being. Children's independence is well promoted through both daily routines and activities. The childminder ensures they have time to try to achieve things for themselves, before offering her support. This makes a positive contribution to children's development of skills that prepare them well for school.

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

The childminder has good knowledge of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She understands how young children learn and develop. Her knowledge is underpinned by her professional qualifications. She maintains a current paediatric first-aid qualification, providing her with the knowledge and skills to respond effectively in the event of an emergency. The childminder has effective systems in place to promote information sharing with parents or other providers. This enables her to provide continuity of care. Parents' feedback is very positive about the quality of the childminder's setting. The childminder's self-evaluation skills have developed well since her previous inspection. She considers information from parents and children when identifying areas of her setting to develop. However, she is less effective in using information from her own observations to support her professional development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY411331
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	874263
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	10 June 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2010 and lives in Westbrook, Warrington. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a relevant qualification at level 3.

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