

Childminder Report

Inspection date

15 June 2015

Previous inspection date

20 October 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 quality of teaching is good. The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of the different ways children learn. As a result, children make good progress and are well prepared for their next stages in learning, including moving on to school.
- Children feel happy and emotionally secure in the childminder's care, as she quickly builds up a trusting relationship with them. Consequently, children are confident and secure in their surroundings.
- The childminder has a good understanding of her responsibilities to protect children from harm. She follows rigorous safeguarding procedures and effectively manages risks in her home to promote children's safety and well-being.
- Children's behaviour is managed appropriately. This is because children receive positive praise and encouragement from the childminder.
- The childminder effectively reviews her own practice to identify how she can drive forward improvements. This has a positive impact on the quality of the provision.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder is not always successful in obtaining ongoing information from parents about what children know and can do at home.
- The childminder does not always provide babies with a continued learning experience that allows them to explore and investigate a variety of resources available to them.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop highly successful strategies to thoroughly engage all parents in sharing information about children's learning to best promote children's next steps in learning between the setting and home
- ensure babies are provided with a continuous learning experience that allows them to build on their own exploratory play and sensory experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector sampled children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder and looked at a selection of policies and procedures, including safeguarding, risk assessments and self-evaluation.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by reading a number of comments and notes given to the childminder.
- The inspector carried out a tour of the premises.

Inspector

Alison Regan

Inspection findings

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

The childminder promotes children's learning and development well. She plans and provides purposeful activities, which she knows the children enjoy. For example, children play a game of hide and seek with the toy insects in the garden. During the activity, older children learn to understand whether the toy insect is 'behind' or 'on top' of the sandpit. However, at times, activities and learning opportunities for babies are not always well planned for. This is because the childminder does not continually make available a variety of resources for them to further extend their exploratory skills. Children listen well to a story read by the childminder; she uses lots of language and emphasises key words. This supports children's communication and language skills. The childminder accurately identifies current learning and next steps in learning for each child. She frequently shares this information with parents at key times. However, the childminder does not always seek to gather as much information as possible from parents about children's learning in their home. As a result, her planning and assessments do not take account of children's wider achievements and experiences.

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

Children settle very quickly in the warm, welcoming atmosphere created by the childminder. The childminder ensures children get regular fresh air and physical exercise, as she makes being outside, either in the garden or going for a walk, a part of her daily routine. The childminder takes children out to places in the community, such as the local library or the park. This provides children with new experiences and supports them to gain an understanding of the local community. The childminder ensures that children maintain good hygiene procedures as she supervises them to wash their hands after playing outside. Children are encouraged to be independent. For example, the childminder supports children to put their shoes on independently in preparation to go outside. Children play and explore in a clean and well-maintained environment both indoors and outdoors. Children are confident within their environment as they know where to find their favourite toys.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the learning and development requirements. She is well qualified at level 3 and is committed to attending further training and researching information. This has a positive impact on the educational programmes she delivers. Children's progress is carefully checked and shows she has a good understanding of their capabilities and next steps in learning. This means she is able to promptly identify any areas of delay or gaps in learning. The childminder has effective links with the local schools. This means she is able to provide support to help children adapt to the changes ahead when they are ready to move on to full-time education. The childminder seeks feedback from parents and carers regarding the care she provides. They speak very positively about the childminder, commenting on the quality of care provided.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY235591
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	872545
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	20 October 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2003 and lives in Stockton Heath, Warrington. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with her husband who is also a registered childminder.

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