

Childminder Report

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| Inspection date | 10 August 2015 |
| Previous inspection date | 1 July 2010 |

| 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 is well qualified. She uses her knowledge and observations of children to plan a broad range of activities that reflects their interests. As a result, children are engaged in their play and are willing to learn.
- Children are happy and settled in the childminder's care. They demonstrate a strong sense of security and emotional well-being. The childminder uses effective settling-in procedures to ensure that she gets to know children well and can respond to their individual needs.
- The childminder provides good support for the development of children's communication and language skills. Children have opportunities to speak and to listen to other children and adults during activities and daily routines. As a result, they are confident in talking to others and expressing their ideas.
- Partnership working with parents is good. The childminder uses effective systems for keeping parents well informed of children's achievements and their next steps in learning.
- Children are kept safe from harm. The childminder understands how to manage risks. She provides children with reminders and explanations about the importance of using healthy and safe practices in their play and during activities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, opportunities for younger children to be independent in their play are limited by the organisation of equipment and resources.
- Occasionally, the childminder misses opportunities to help children practise their early writing skills in a range of contexts.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of equipment and resources to support younger children's growing independence and curiosity
- develop further opportunities for children to practise their early writing skills in a range of activities and situations.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and interactions between the childminder and children during play and at lunchtime.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector evaluated an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's records and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of members of the household, the childminder's qualifications and her self-evaluation document.

Inspector

Susan Hopper

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is good. The childminder uses her knowledge of how young children learn and develop to provide a broad range of activities that cover all areas of learning. She regularly checks children's progress and uses this information to inform future planning. Consequently, all children make good progress from their starting points, which are discussed with parents when children first start at the setting. Children play well together. They cooperate and share resources. Children practise their counting skills and demonstrate their knowledge of colours in play activities. They use their imaginations in different role-play situations and select equipment relevant to their play. The childminder actively engages with the children, extending their play by asking questions and responding to their ideas. However, the childminder sometimes misses opportunities to help children practise their early writing skills in everyday play activities.

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

Children are happy and motivated learners. Older children confidently select play activities and resources. The childminder gives them time to investigate and develop their ideas. However, equipment and resources in the indoor play area are sometimes arranged in ways that limit opportunities for younger children to freely explore and develop their independence. Children have daily opportunities to be physically active. They play outdoors and visit local parks and places of interest. Children's behaviour is well managed. The childminder is a good role model. She calmly explains to children why certain behaviours are important and helps them to manage their feelings. The childminder effectively promotes children's self-care skills. Children are given sufficient time to complete daily routines, such as handwashing and putting on their shoes. The childminder provides children with opportunities to develop their social skills by interacting with children in larger, familiar groups. Children demonstrate that they are developing the key skills they need for starting school.

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

The childminder has a secure understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She attends training and has gained a recognised qualification. The childminder uses the knowledge she has gained from training to develop strategies to help all children to learn effectively and make good progress. She uses her links with other local childminders to share ideas for practice. The childminder shows a commitment to providing a good quality provision. She regularly reflects on her practice and considers the views of parents and children when identifying areas for further improvement. For example, the childminder has designed and introduced new systems for managing observations and assessments and has improved her procedures for sharing information with parents. The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of child protection procedures and the action to take should she have any safeguarding concerns.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY404974 |
| Local authority | Wigan |
| Inspection number | 850617 |
| Type of provision | Childminder |
| Registration category | Childminder |
| Age range of children | 0 - 17 |
| Total number of places | 6 |
| Number of children on roll | 4 |
| Name of provider | |
| Date of previous inspection | 1 July 2010 |
| Telephone number | |

The childminder was registered in 2010 and lives in Lowton, Warrington. The provision operates all year round from 7am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a relevant qualification at level 3.

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