

Childminder Report

Inspection date

12 August 2015

Previous inspection date

1 December 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 has effective methods in place to assess and monitor children's achievements, including any gaps in their development. This contributes to all children receiving appropriate interventions and support at an early age.
- The childminder accesses safeguarding training regularly to continually refresh her knowledge. As a result, she is clear about the procedures to follow should she have any concerns about a child's welfare. This helps to protect children and keep them safe from harm.
- The childminder provides good levels of care within her home environment. As a result, children are happy and develop good relationships with her. They are interested, confident and show a willingness to explore, experiment and try things out for themselves.
- The childminder is a good role model, with a calm nature that children respond to positively. Children behave well, develop good manners and are learning to share and take turns.
- The childminder builds good relationships with parents and keeps them up to date with the progress their children are making. Information is shared frequently. This includes how parents can further support their children at home.
- The childminder continues to develop her professional knowledge through her own research and by attending additional training, in order to benefit all children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder occasionally does not allow children enough time to think, in order to solve problems and respond to questions.
- Occasionally, the childminder does not allow children to follow and express their own ideas and creative thoughts during art and craft activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that children have more time to think, solve problems and respond to questions
- extend the opportunities for children to fully express their own creative thoughts and ideas.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and in the garden.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at written testimonials and questionnaires provided by parents and carers.
- The inspector looked at a range of documents, including the childminder's self-evaluation form, evidence of the suitability of the adults working in her household, children's assessment records, learning journeys and planning documentation.

Inspector

Jeanette Brookfield

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 provides a wide variety of activities and resources that are suitable for children of different ages. She regularly observes children during their play to determine their play preferences. This helps children enjoy their time with the childminder and they are motivated to learn. The childminder works well with parents to establish children's starting points and monitor their development effectively. This supports children in making good progress. Children enjoy a range of art and craft activities. However, occasionally the childminder makes decisions for the children about how to decorate their pictures and use craft materials. As a result, children are not always able to fully express their own ideas and creativity. Also, children are sometimes not given enough time to think about and respond to questions. This is because they are given the answer too quickly. However, overall children are well prepared for the next stage in their learning and their move on to school. The childminder focuses on stimulating children's mathematical and literacy development. Children are beginning to recognise their name in writing and to link sounds with letters.

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

Children enjoy the childminder's company and play confidently around her home and garden. This helps build up their self-esteem. Good quality information is gathered from parents. This is used very well to help children settle and maintain their emotional well-being. Children benefit from regular access to the outdoors for fresh air and exercise. This promotes children's physical well-being very effectively. Children are encouraged to do practical tasks for themselves. This contributes towards the development of their independence for school. Children eat healthy snacks and the childminder reminds them about drinking water throughout the day, especially when the weather is warm. This helps them learn about how to care for their bodies.

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

The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. She uses her knowledge of child development to help secure good outcomes for children in her care. The childminder has a good knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She maintains a good overview of the educational programmes she provides to ensure they meet children's individual learning needs. The childminder evaluates her provision in order to maintain and improve her already good practice. She values the views and feedback from parents and meets with other childminders to share ideas and information. This helps her to continue to provide good quality experiences for children and their families. The childminder occasionally works with an assistant. She effectively supervises their performance and involves them in all aspects of practice to build their knowledge.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY285133
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	861215
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	1 December 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2004 and lives in Upton, Wirral. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. She occasionally works with an assistant.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

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