

Childminder Report

Inspection date

19 August 2015

Previous inspection date

5 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children make very rapid progress from their rigorous starting point assessments as the childminder skilfully extends their learning and development.
- The childminder superbly uses the children's interests to engage them in activities for an extended amount of time given their ages. Therefore, the activities often evolve and learning is evident across the seven areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Parents contribute to their children's learning and this is highly valued. The childminder ensures they are kept informed of their children's progress and gives them ideas to try at home.
- Partnership working with other professionals is strong and the childminder actively seeks support for children when necessary. Therefore, children's individual needs are excellently catered for and if required, support is put in place for them quickly.
- The childminder has exceptionally high expectations of what children can do. They are encouraged to become independent within their environment from a young age.
- The childminder is enthusiastic and very proactive in keeping her own skills up to date through courses and research and children benefit from this as it positively enhances their experiences.
- The childminder promotes children's well-being because she is extremely sensitive to the needs of each individual child. She tailors activities to ensure they are suitable and stimulating for the different ages of children that attend.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- refine the already excellent opportunities to develop problem-solving skills for the youngest of children that attend.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and learning both indoors and outside.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the day.
- The inspector took the views of parents into account.
- The inspector looked at documentation including children's records, planning and assessment, suitability and a selection of policies and procedures, for example, safeguarding and the complaints procedure.
- The inspector carried out a joint evaluation of teaching with the childminder.

Inspector

Estelle Noblett

Inspection findings

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

The children play in a welcoming, well-organised environment and all resources are freely accessible. Resources that reflect cultural differences and the diverse world in which we live are readily available for the children to explore. The childminder has exceptional knowledge of how to extend and model language and does so frequently. Children's learning is continuously extended and challenged through the range of questioning techniques the childminder uses. The childminder is mindful that at times children benefit from being allowed to explore independently. During these times, she observes play and when appropriate begins to interact with them again. Children are well prepared for the next stage in their learning. Children learn to be independent thinkers as they overcome challenges. The childminder assists the children in formulating their own ideas and sensitively respects their individual thoughts. She recognises that there is scope to continue to enhance opportunities for the youngest children to solve their own problems. The level of engagement the children display during activities is exceptionally high.

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

Children are nurtured as individuals through a strong secure attachment with the childminder. They are able to complete tasks independently as they know she is close by to offer them support or reassurance if necessary. Children enjoy the praise they regularly receive and their self-esteem and confidence is boosted due to this. The childminder teaches them about the importance of a healthy lifestyle through the nutritious snacks that she provides and daily physical activity. When children start a new setting, such as school, the childminder helps the children become emotionally ready for this. This is done in connection with the parents and the new setting to ensure the approach is consistent and in the best interest of the child. The children are excellently behaved and the childminder has very high expectations that the children mostly adhere to. If needed, reminders are given in an age-appropriate way so that children understand.

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

The childminder uses self-evaluation to reflect on her own personal strengths and look at areas that she would like to further refine. She changes the resources regularly to meet the individual needs of all children and these are constantly reviewed. Systems to monitor the progress children make are fully embedded into her practice. Therefore, her knowledge regarding each individual child is excellent. The childminder regularly seeks the views of those connected with her setting. Feedback from parents and carers is extremely positive and complimentary, they are happy with the service provided. The childminder provides them with advice when requested. The childminder holds a level 3 qualification and this extra training has a positive impact. The childminder understands how to act to keep children safe and has an excellent understanding of safeguarding procedures. She regularly refreshes her own knowledge and has high expectations of herself and what she can provide for children and their families.

Setting details

Unique reference number	403516
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	855439
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	5 May 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2001 and lives in Lytham. She operates Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a recognised level 3 qualification.

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