

Childminder Report

Inspection date

3 September 2015

Previous inspection date

27 February 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn and develop. She regularly observes and assesses children's learning and plans a wide and varied range of purposeful learning experiences.
- The childminder provides a nurturing and welcoming environment for children. Children settle quickly and show confidence in their understanding of routines. They have good opportunities to be active and particularly enjoy exploring the childminder's exciting garden.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. The childminder regularly updates parents about their child's progress. She works with parents to gather information when children first start about their interests and preferences.
- The childminder has a secure understanding of her responsibilities to safeguard children. She follows safe working practices to support children's health, safety and well-being. She provides a safe and secure environment, where she effectively minimises hazards.
- The qualified childminder consistently reflects on her provision and continues to improve children's learning experiences. She attends regular training to update her knowledge and understanding of how children learn.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always make full use of opportunities to further promote children's recognition and understanding of numbers and shapes.
- Strategies to encourage all parents to share detailed information about their child's learning at home are not yet fully developed, to enable children to make the best possible progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to see and use numbers and shapes in their everyday play and routines
- consider different ways to obtain precise information from parents about what their children already know and can do.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas of the home and garden used for childminding.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children during the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at a selection of policies, procedures and children's records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder and other members of the household.
- The inspector took account of the opinions of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Sharon Hennam-Dale

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder has a thorough awareness of possible child protection issues. She has good knowledge of the procedures to follow should she have any concerns for children in her care. Good partnership working with other early years providers ensures children receive consistent care and learning experiences. The childminder shares information with parents to meet children's care needs and promote their developmental progress. However, the childminder does not always find out enough about children's achievements at home, to establish a precise and accurate picture of what they know and can do. Effective self-evaluation systems are in place and the childminder is able to identify areas she wishes to develop. She has successfully addressed the recommendations raised at her last inspection. Parents say that they are very happy with the service received.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder plans a variety of interesting activities to ensure children learn through play. She successfully monitors children's progress and quickly addresses any gaps in their learning. The childminder sensitively encourages children to take part in new sensory experiences, such as messy play, adding shaving foam to the paint to spark children's curiosity. She effectively extends children's learning as they develop new skills using their hands and brushes to make patterns and shapes using the paint. The childminder supports children to become confident communicators. She engages children of all ages in conversation and introduces new vocabulary when reading stories. Babies enjoy babbling and making noises. Toddlers attempt to copy new words, which the childminder models and repeats. Children have good opportunities to develop their problem-solving skills to support their move to pre-school and school. However, the childminder does not provide enough opportunities for children to build on their number skills or learn about shapes. For example, there are few resources that reflect these for children to use in their self-chosen play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop secure emotional attachments with the childminder, which enables them to investigate their surroundings and try out new experiences. This promotes children's early independence and raises their self-confidence. Very effective settling-in procedures ensure that children's individual care needs are well known prior to them starting. The childminder provides healthy snacks and meals, which promotes children's good health. She ensures children follow good hygiene routines throughout the day. Children learn about being safe and take appropriate risks during play. Behaviour is good. The childminder consistently praises children for their efforts and achievements.

Outcomes for children are good

Teaching is of a high standard and, as a result, children make good progress in their learning and development. Children are able to access all areas freely, including outdoors. They make independent choices within their play and they can safely and easily select resources for themselves.

Setting details

Unique reference number	402372
Local authority	Cheshire West and Chester
Inspection number	855428
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	27 February 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2001 and lives in Utkinton near Tarporley, Cheshire. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

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