

Childminder Report

Inspection date

9 October 2015

Previous inspection date

8 December 2009

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 knows the children in her care very well through her own observations and close consultation with parents. She plans specific activities based on children's interests and abilities, and effectively extends children's learning with her engaging interaction.
- Children are encouraged to manage self-care tasks within everyday routines, which help them to develop independence. They receive frequent warm praise and encouragement for their efforts. This helps children to develop a positive sense of self and increased confidence in their own abilities.
- Children enjoy close relationships with the childminder. This helps them to feel secure and confident. Consequently, they are motivated and eager to join in with activities, especially those which are adult-led. They form strong early friendships as they play well together.
- The childminder acts as a positive role model and has a calm and respectful manner. This helps children to develop good social skills in readiness for future learning.
- The childminder is committed to improving her practice. She keeps up to date by attending relevant training. She reviews what is working well and identifies where improvements can be made.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The organisation of the learning environment does not consistently promote children's independent play and exploration.
- The childminder does not consider fully how she can share information about children to help support their initial move to nursery.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enable children to access and explore a greater variety of resources inside and outside to promote their independence
- enhance information sharing with other providers as children move to a new setting.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder, her co-childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation, feedback from parents and evidence of the suitability of those living on the premises.

Inspector

Rachel Ayo

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder implements statutory and other government requirements well. She works consistently with her co-childminder, both of whom complement the practice with their individual skills. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Robust risk assessments help children to stay safe in the home and on outings. High priority is given to updating child protection training. Consequently, the childminder can promptly identify and report any potential concerns. This contributes to keeping children safe. Parents are well informed about their children's progress and actively encouraged to support learning at home. They regularly review and feed back on their children's records of learning; comments are very complimentary. Once children have settled at nursery, information is shared with nursery staff through face-to-face contact or via parents. This helps to promote continuity in children's care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder guides and extends children's learning skilfully. She has a good understanding of their individual needs and stage of development, closely monitoring their progress. The childminder enhances children's enjoyment with her enthusiastic and fun approach. For example, children giggle and become very excited as they take part in action songs. Children's early communication and language is developing very well, especially given their young age. The childminder skilfully questions children and models good language as she engages in purposeful dialogue with them. Children focus well during activities. Visual aids and props help them to maintain even greater levels of concentration.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder works very closely with parents to help children to settle in at their own pace. She follows home routines to promote continuity for children and finds out about each child's uniqueness. This helps children to feel safe and secure. Children are clearly at ease in the home-from-home environment. They confidently move around and enjoy helping with tasks, such as tidying up. Children play cooperatively and learn about fairness as they share and take turns during activities. They benefit from ample fresh air and exercise as they go out daily to different places in the community. This also widens their social experiences and helps them to learn to value any differences between themselves and others.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They delight in doing things for themselves, such as making their own sandwiches and trying to put on their Wellington boots. Children are well prepared to take their first steps into nursery and have a positive approach to learning. They show curiosity while collecting and investigating objects to put in the water tray, such as leaves, stones and twigs, and play imaginatively. While children enthusiastically engage in a singing activity, the childminder spontaneously introduces early mathematical concepts. Children acquire the skills they need for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	303628
Local authority	Calderdale
Inspection number	867480
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	8 December 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2000 and lives in the Greetland area of Halifax. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder is eligible to receive funding for free early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The childminder works with another childminder.

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