

Childminder Report

Inspection date	22 October 2015
Previous inspection date	20 March 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 knows the children very well and effectively meets their care needs. This means that children feel secure with the childminder and are confident to explore their environment.
- Parents are very happy with the care and education provided by the childminder. In particular, they value the good manners that children learn during their time in the setting.
- The childminder plans interesting activities that engage the children. This, and good quality teaching, support children to make good progress. Children are motivated to join in and enjoy their time with the childminder.
- The childminder has robust systems to keep children safe, both in her home and on the various places they visit. Consequently, children are protected from risks while with the childminder.
- Children learn about the cultures and religions of people around the world because the childminder plans activities that celebrate various festivals and promote equality and diversity.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always give children time to think and respond, to further enhance their thinking and speaking skills.
- The childminder's systems to gather information as children start at the setting are not robust enough to accurately assess children's learning and development on entry.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the teaching even further by using a wider range of strategies to communicate with children and consistently allow them sufficient time to think and respond
- improve systems to gather information to accurately assess children's learning and development on entry.

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 held discussions with the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of assistants and adults living at the home.
- The inspector took the written views of parents into account.

Inspector

Anne Parker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective because the childminder has established good procedures to follow if she has concerns about a child in her care. She and her assistant attend safeguarding training and both hold a current first-aid certificate. The childminder understands the importance of supervising assistants and providing them with feedback to improve their practice. The childminder evaluates her practice using the views of parents and seeks out information to improve her service. For example, she networks with other childminders and links closely with various agencies to ensure she is up to date with current practice. This has a positive impact on her provision. The childminder has good partnerships with local schools and nurseries that the children attend and shares information to ensure children's learning is continuous.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder regularly observes children and plans activities to meet their individual needs. She accurately assesses children's development and adapts the activities accordingly. She shares her observations with parents and encourages them to continue their child's learning at home. However, she does not gather enough information to accurately assess children on entry. The childminder ensures the educational programme covers all areas of learning. For example, she models language effectively and extends children's sentences. Children learn about mathematical concepts as the childminder uses opportunities throughout the day to count, introduce positional language, shape and measure. Children develop a love of literacy as they select their favourite story books for her to read to them. Sometimes however, during discussions with children, the childminder does not always allow children enough time to think and respond.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder has high expectations for children's behaviour and sets clear boundaries. Consequently, children behave well. Children settle quickly because the childminder communicates with their parents about likes, dislikes and interests, and incorporates this into her planning. Furthermore, she effectively supports children's emotional well-being as they move on to the next steps in their learning. Children are independent, able to make choices and manage their own care needs. These skills help children to be well prepared for school or nursery class. The childminder provides healthy meals and snacks and children understand the importance of healthy lifestyles. Children benefit from daily opportunities for fresh air and exercise as the childminder takes them to local parks and forests.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident and motivated to learn because they are engaged in purposeful activities that they enjoy. As a result, they make good progress over time.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY335942
Local authority	Halton
Inspection number	874689
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	20 March 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2006. She lives in Runcorn, Cheshire. The childminder operates from 6.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with assistants.

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