

Childminder Report

Inspection date

22 January 2016

Previous inspection date

21 February 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Met	
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

- Teaching is good. The childminder is well-qualified and experienced. She has a very good understanding of how young children learn. She regularly and accurately monitors children's progress across all areas of learning. Children make good progress and are keen learners.
- Children are supported to develop their communication and language skills. The childminder uses a variety of different questioning techniques and allows children time to think and answer.
- Children are supported to lead a healthy lifestyle. They enjoy healthy and nutritious meals and snacks. Children choose their own fruit, pour their own drinks and help the childminder prepare food. Additionally, they enjoy many walks and visits in the local community. Children are developing confidence and have good levels of self-esteem.
- Children are happy, well settled and enjoy warm relationships with the childminder. They confidently explore the learning environment and make independent choices in their play.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, the childminder does not provide opportunities for children to explore and investigate using all of their senses.
- The childminder does not ask parents to share information about children's learning when they first attend.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide even more varied and interesting opportunities for children to investigate and explore using all of their senses
- consistently gather the views of parents about their children's learning when they first begin at the setting.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and the children throughout the inspection. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's policies and procedures, children's records and the childminder's self-evaluation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of adults who live at the childminder's home.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents, made available from written references.

Inspector

Donna Birch

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder fully understands her roles and responsibilities in keeping children safe. She has consulted with her local authority advisors and has updated relevant policies and procedures. She has also refreshed her training and has updated her first-aid and safeguarding qualifications. The childminder has addressed weaknesses raised at a previous inspection. She conducts risk assessments of her home and for outings. The childminder verbally seeks the views of parents to inform her self-evaluation. Parents comment that they are happy with the flexible service the childminder provides. The childminder has cascaded knowledge and information from training to her assistant. She uses supervision to ensure her assistant provides high-quality teaching to children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder interacts well with children. She uses effective teaching to help children extend their personal, social, emotional and communication skills. For example, when reading a familiar story, she asks children questions about the characters and leaves pauses for them to add their own ideas. Children have good imaginative skills and easily relate the story to their own personal experiences from home. Children have good small-muscle skills. They use available resources to draw and make marks and enjoy scooping and pouring rice in and out of different-sized containers. Children are supported to learn number concepts. They count during everyday routines and activities and sing number rhymes and songs. The childminder regularly observes children as they play. Overall, she ensures activities provided are challenging and help promote the next steps in their learning well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder is attentive to children's needs and children happily approach her for comfort and reassurance. The childminder is a good role model for children. She uses age-appropriate strategies to manage behaviour and gently reminds children about her expectations. Children behave well given their ages and stages of development. They are developing good social skills and the confidence to do things for themselves. Settling-in sessions are flexible and used well. The childminder uses this time to get to know children and their families. This enables her to follow routines and care practices, as discussed with parents. The childminder completes daily diaries for each child and shares these with parents. This helps to keep them informed of their child's ongoing care and learning at the setting.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points and are prepared for the next stage in their learning and for school. Children learn good skills for their future independence.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY136618
Local authority	Sefton
Inspection number	817350
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 1
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	1
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	21 February 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2002 and lives in Southport. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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