

Childminder Report

Inspection date

9 February 2016

Previous inspection date

28 January 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder has developed highly effective systems to work in partnership with parents and other professionals. Children's learning and development are extremely well supported due to the childminder's consistency of approach and her in-depth understanding of children and their families.
- The childminder is very ambitious. She is well qualified for her role and continually enhances her existing knowledge, in order to promote the best possible outcomes for children.
- Children's learning is underpinned by consistently excellent teaching. The childminder has an in-depth understanding of each child's preferred learning style and uses this to excellent effect when planning. She has very high expectations for what each child can achieve.
- The childminder has exceptionally strong partnership-working skills that are deeply embedded in her practice. She has developed ongoing information sharing with others, to ensure that her assessments of children's skills are highly accurate. Effective monitoring systems enable her to identify gaps in children's learning very quickly and seek additional support for them.
- Children are extremely independent. The childminder makes the most of every opportunity to enable them to do things for themselves.
- The indoor learning environment is homely, welcoming and meticulously planned to promote children's choice and independence. Children move around the setting with confidence and ease, remaining engaged in their play for prolonged periods.
- Children's foundations for future learning are extremely well supported. The childminder encourages them to explore, experiment and try new things.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to maximise the planned opportunities for children's learning in the outdoor area.

Inspection activities

- The inspector toured the areas used for childminding.
- 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 discussed and reviewed relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation and evidence of her suitability and qualifications.
- The inspector reviewed written feedback submitted by parents and took this into account.

Inspector

Lauren Grocott

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder actively involves parents and children in her self-evaluation, seeking their opinions as she enhances the provision. The childminder has very strong relationships with other providers and the local authority which help to enhance her existing skills. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has an extremely sharp focus on keeping children safe from harm, and meticulously follows the procedures she has devised for this. The childminder builds highly effective relationships with parents and other providers. Parents state they cannot praise the childminder highly enough for the ways in which she supports their children. Parents make regular contributions to children's learning records, and the childminder makes very good use of the information she gathers through this process. The childminder's deep understanding of children's learning and robust monitoring systems enable her to provide an exceptionally imaginative and stimulating range of activities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder uses highly interesting and innovative strategies to help children learn about the world around them. One recent example is that she and the children wrote to a local vet to find out about the kinds of animals they look after and how they make them better. Children's early literacy skills are very well supported. Children have access to a wide variety of materials to make marks with. Young children are entranced by marks they make with cooked spaghetti and paint. Children's parents and other professionals are deeply involved in the assessments of children's progress. The childminder continually engages and challenges children, using a range of questions or suggestions to extend children's own ideas. Children thoroughly enjoy a wide range of outings in the local community and beyond. The childminder is currently focusing on how she can build upon the planned opportunities available to children in the outdoor area at her home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children demonstrate excellent behaviour and are extremely secure in their relationships with the childminder. Children show high levels of self-confidence and resilience, and the childminder respects them as individuals. Children have a unique sense of self and belonging. They learn to understand and respect diversity in a variety of different ways. The childminder creates a very wide range of opportunities for children to develop their social skills. Very young children show they like to help each other. They put the shoes of other children on the floor in front of them when it is time to go outside. Children quickly grow to understand the importance of robust hygiene procedures, and take an active part in their own self-care from a young age. The childminder maximises opportunities for physical exercise. Children delight in this as they move materials, such as pebbles and mud, around in different containers in the outdoor area.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are making extremely good progress in their learning, from their individual starting points. Children demonstrate very positive attitudes towards learning, which prepares them very well for the eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	313062
Local authority	Knowsley
Inspection number	847652
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	28 January 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2000 and lives in Huyton, Liverpool. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate foundation degree.

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