

Childminder Report

Inspection date

20 May 2016

Previous inspection date

17 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 is extremely committed in her quest to provide children with the best-quality service she can. Since the last inspection, she has turned her long-term vision into reality. Extensive refurbishment within the play areas and an exceptionally thoughtful use of space provides the children with a comforting, yet highly exciting, stimulating and very safe place to be.
- Adults are very gentle and caring. Robust procedures for engaging parents to support children to settle means that children have formed very secure emotional attachments. This helps them to confidently express their ideas, wishes and preferences throughout their day. Children of all ages are highly motivated and eager to join in and explore their world.
- The childminder and her assistants have a range of vocational qualifications and experience. Their teaching is rooted in a superb understanding about how children learn. The childminder herself is particularly skilled at engaging children during activities so that they maintain focus, deepen their understanding and gain the best out of the learning experiences offered.
- Partnerships with parents are extremely strong. Parents contribute to and are kept well informed regarding their children's progress. The childminder takes prompt and concise action to engage other professionals, to ensure she has the knowledge and equipment to meet children's unique needs and help children make the best possible progress.
- Children behave extremely well. They are busy in their play and the childminder helps children think about the possible impact their actions may have on their peers as they play. Children are supported very well to share, help and show respect for each other.
- The childminder understands fully her responsibilities in providing support and guidance to her assistants. Induction procedures are executed efficiently. Regular arrangements to coach and mentor are undertaken, to improve individuals' skills and practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with even greater opportunities to explore the wide variety of technology available.

Inspection activities

- Prior to the inspection, the inspector viewed the childminder's last report and her self-evaluation document.
- The inspector had a tour of the areas of the home and garden used for childminding purposes.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, her assistants and the children at appropriate times during inspection. He looked at children's registration records and planning documentation. He also checked the evidence of the qualifications and the suitability of the adults present or working in the home.
- 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 reviewed written feedback provided by parents and considered their views.
- The inspector checked the arrangements for first-aid trained adults and their deployment.

Inspector

Frank Kelly

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder uses an extensive range of methods for extending her knowledge and keeping up to date. She is an active member of childcare networks, undertakes research and attends training events, to continually drive forward her professional development. Children remain very safe as robust risk assessments are enhanced by the regular checks made throughout the day. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder follows robust recruitment procedures and she is extremely knowledgeable about a wider range of child protection issues. Parents are provided with extensive information about her service. Their written feedback includes high praise for her professionalism and the quality of the care she provides for their children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Detailed information from parents is obtained to help the childminder plan support for each child's unique needs. The childminder has an informed understanding of the different areas of learning. She successfully provides excellent challenge for each child, to help them consolidate and extend their existing knowledge. She is adept at developing children's concentration and communication and language. For example, her animated reading of a story about the transformation of a caterpillar into a butterfly has children listening intently. Afterwards children enthusiastically observe, talk about and count the real caterpillars they are caring for. Younger children enjoy a wide range of action songs, which also promotes their social and physical development. Assistants extend children's critical thinking as the play evolves. As children pour water into a collection of tubes intertwined and mounted on a fence, they are invited to predict where the water will emerge. They squeal with delight as they explore the differing possibilities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder provides an excellent range of equipment and activities that enthuses and motivates children. It includes a good range of technological equipment. However, this is not always as readily accessible for children to explore independently. Nevertheless, the childminder has high expectations of what children can achieve. In particular children are developing exceptional self-help skills. At lunchtime, toddlers are supported in an unhurried way to serve themselves and learn how to carry their plate safely back to the table. Older children seek out favourite puzzles and fit them together quietly, while those children wanting a rest are settled. Children are supported very well to understand how to keep healthy. They regularly visit the local open spaces to run and climb, and grow their own produce on an allotment. Activities that acknowledge children's special events and those across the country promote their understanding of cultures and people beyond their own families.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are developing into self-assured individuals who are making very good progress. All children show high levels of confidence in social situations and thoroughly enjoy their learning. They are truly well prepared for their future learning in this vibrant setting.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY416836
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	851764
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 9
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	15
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	17 May 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2010 and lives in Woodchurch, Wirral, Merseyside. She operates all year round, from 8am to 6pm, Tuesday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. The childminder works with two assistants, one of whom holds a qualification at level 3.

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