

Childminder Report

Inspection date

17 January 2017

Previous inspection date

9 October 2013

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 highly effective in continually evaluating the quality of provision. She seeks the views of parents and children and welcomes suggestions and ideas. She successfully evaluates her own practice and actively seeks continuous training and professional development opportunities to improve her teaching skills even further.
- The childminder has an excellent knowledge of how children learn and their developmental stages. She uses her outstanding teaching skills effectively. Children make remarkable progress in relation to their starting points on entry into her setting.
- Partnerships with parents and other professionals are very well established and highly effective. They exchange an extensive range of information which successfully supports children's well-being, continuity of care and promotes excellent, shared learning opportunities.
- The childminder is well qualified and makes astute and perceptive observations of children at play. She is very adept at assessing where children are in their development and identifying their next stages in learning. She uses her exceptional knowledge of early years care and education to skilfully identify any areas of development where children may need extra support.
- The childminder is highly effective at fostering children's physical and emotional well-being. Her stringent settling-in periods help children and families get to know her and her family exceptionally well. This helps establish mutual trust and enable strong bonds to be formed, having an extremely positive impact on children's development and learning.
- Children respond well to the childminder's positive behaviour management. She is an excellent role model, has very high expectations and is consistent. Children benefit highly from secure routines tailored to their individual needs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to enhance the already superb learning opportunities and experiences that children have outdoors.

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 evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation, discussed self-evaluation and checked evidence records of qualifications and the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Janice Caryl

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has an excellent knowledge and understanding of how to safeguard children and keep them well protected. She meticulously follows her thorough policies and procedures which contribute to the safe and efficient management of her setting. She has an excellent understanding of how to recognise when a child is at risk and how to respond quickly. The impact of some recent training that the childminder has attended is highly evident in her outstanding practice. For example, she has enhanced the indoor environment. This has had a significantly positive impact on learning outcomes for children. Furthermore, this training has generated lots of ideas for enhancing the outdoor environment and extending children's learning experiences.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder offers a rich, homely environment with an exciting range of stimulating and exciting activities and experiences. Teaching is dynamic, inspiring and challenging. The childminder follows children's interests and gives them time to explore and lead their own play. Children are animated, enthusiastic and make independent choices. The childminder skilfully supports young children to develop their language and thinking skills. For example, when a shiny ball rolls under the chair, she models thinking and asks, 'How can we get that back?' Children explore small, dried pasta shapes with relish. They develop their physical skills as they use different tools, emptying and filling the numerous containers available. The childminder expertly differentiates activities so that all children are suitably challenged. Older children are introduced to mathematics and literacy games, helping them prepare for moving on to nursery or school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder is highly effective at organising space and resources to maximise play opportunities for all children. Resources reflect positive images of culture and ethnicity, helping to teach children about the diverse world in which they live. The childminder has a balanced approach to risk management and encourages children to be independent. She gives children time to learn, persevere and practise their skills. Stringent procedures are in place to promote children's good health and well-being. The childminder's enthusiasm for the outdoors inspires children's interest in the natural world. Children are fascinated when a squirrel goes running by. The childminder teaches children to be quiet and still so that they can watch it more closely.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are very eager learners and make rapid progress from their starting points. They are self-motivated, confident and actively seek out new experiences. Children have a vast amount of opportunities to talk, listen and develop their concentration skills. Children thrive in the childminder's care. For example, they feed a toy penguin by posting big and little fish into its mouth. They climb in and out and explore a play igloo. These fun learning experiences provide them with a very strong foundation on which to build their future education at school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY459023
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1066685
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	9 October 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2012 and lives in Lancaster, Lancashire. She operates all year round from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds qualified teacher status. The childminder is eligible to provide funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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