

Childminder Report

Inspection date

2 February 2017

Previous inspection date

26 February 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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 has established good partnerships with parents and other agencies. She shares information about children's development and acts on the advice of health professionals to devise specific strategies to ensure that children make good progress.
- Children form strong attachments to the childminder. New children settle very quickly and join in activities with other children. The childminder is sensitive to children's moods and manages the competing needs of different children very well.
- The childminder is knowledgeable and experienced. She uses what she has learnt from her childcare training and further training to accurately assess children's development. She regularly observes what children can do and uses their interests to extend their learning further, overall.
- Very young children learn about the world around them in a variety of ways. For example, children know rabbits need to drink water and they learn about different celebrations around the world.
- The childminder makes accurate assessments of her own practice. She asks parents for their views and sets herself targets to ensure she is continually striving for improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not take every opportunity to encourage babies to practise their physical skills and so develop age-appropriate independence.
- The outdoor environment does not offer the best learning opportunities for those children who prefer to learn outside.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for babies to further develop their physical and independence skills
- improve the opportunities available to children who prefer to learn outside that help them continue their learning 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 held a number of discussions with the childminder, including her plans to drive improvement in her practice. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of 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

Val Aspinall

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder has a clear understanding of her roles and responsibilities. She has implemented effective procedures to monitor children's learning and keeps up to date with new developments in her profession. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder is knowledgeable about all aspects of child protection. She is able to recognise when a child may be at risk of harm and knows who to share her concerns with. She assesses risks well and ensures her home is a safe and comfortable place for children to play. The childminder uses various methods, such as social media and newsletters, to share information with parents about the activities she is planning. She adds lots of ideas to help parents to continue their child's learning at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder is a skilled teacher. She uses simple activities, such as playing with toy cars, to help extend children's learning. For example, toddlers begin to understand numbers as she counts to three and babies learn to negotiate spaces as they fit the car in to the garage lift with her encouragement. She uses visual aids to reinforce learning. Children listen to the 'Rainbow Song' as she shows them balls in corresponding colours. The childminder models simple sentences and questions to check children's understanding, giving them time to respond. Children enjoy the activities she provides because her planning reflects their interests. She reads familiar stories and uses popular characters to help engage children. However, the choice of activities outside is limited to physical play with balls.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder is particularly good at recognising when children need extra emotional support. She reassures children with a cuddle and her calm approach. Children settle quickly as a result and are able to join in play. The childminder reinforces the simple rules and boundaries she has in place. She gently reminds children that toys need to be shared or that they need to sit down while they eat. Children respond well to her relaxed approach and behave well. Children enjoy eating the healthy snacks and meals that are provided. Toddlers kick and throw balls outside. These activities contribute to children's developing physical skills and help them to begin to develop a healthy lifestyle. However, the childminder carries babies outside which limits their opportunities to move about freely.

Outcomes for children are good

Young children are beginning to demonstrate the skills of effective learners. They show curiosity and the desire to explore how things work. They know where their favourite resources are and are able to get them independently. Children listen to the childminder and are beginning to communicate their wants and needs. They show good progress towards acquiring the dispositions they will need for their eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY449697
Local authority	Sefton
Inspection number	1042755
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	26 February 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2012 and lives in Formby. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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