

Childminder Report

Inspection date

4 May 2017

Previous inspection date

31 January 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 quality of teaching is good. Children delight in taking part in a wide range of exciting activities that enables them to make good progress in their learning and development.
- Children have developed very secure attachments with the childminder. She has developed warm relationships with the children and ensures that settling-in procedures are tailored to suit the needs of individual children. This helps to effectively support children's emotional well-being.
- The childminder offers a varied range of healthy snacks and meals. This contributes well to helping children to lead healthy lifestyles.
- The childminder has clear procedures for safeguarding children. She is familiar with the signs and symptoms of abuse. This, combined with the regular discussions she holds with the children about topics such as stranger danger, helps to keep children safe.
- Partnership with parents and carers is good. The childminder regularly gathers the views of children and parents. She uses this information to evaluate her service. This helps to ensure that her priorities for improvement are well focused on the needs of children and their families.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- When children first start in the childminder's care, the childminder does not gather enough detailed information from parents about what children can already do on entry.
- There are not enough opportunities for children to practice their running, jumping and climbing skills, when playing outdoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- collect more detailed information from parents about what children already know and can do when they first start in the childminder's care
- increase opportunities to support children to practice moving in different ways to enhance their physical development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children in the childminder's home and the yurt.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder about her understanding of the requirements of the statutory framework for the early years foundation stage.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and other professionals that the childminder works with, to develop her service.
- The inspector reviewed a wide range of documentation including children's planning, assessments, policies and procedures.

Inspector

Sarah Dimsdale

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder carries out regular risk assessments of her home and yurt. The yurt is a large circular tent which is located near the childminder's home. The childminder regularly checks the yurt and the path leading to the yurt, for hazardous items. This helps to minimise the risks to children. The childminder is highly qualified and has undertaken a wide range of training courses. The childminder seeks new ways to develop her own practice, for example, by attending regular early year's networking events. This helps to ensure that her priorities for improvement are sharply focused.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder carefully plans activities that are exciting and challenging. For example, children thoroughly enjoy chopping wood to build the yurt campfire. They negotiate how hard they must chop the wood and carefully consider the size the wood should be to create a 'good' fire. This effectively supports children to develop their problem solving skills. Children enjoy exploring real items such as pots and pans in the large sandpit. They work well together, cooperating and taking turns when filling the pots and pans with sand to make 'porridge'. This provides good opportunities to promote their personal, social and emotional development. Children receive good opportunities to develop their creative skills. For example, they enjoy taking part in activities such as willow weaving.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder carries out regular home visits to get to know children and their families and works closely with parents from the onset. For example, parents are invited to the yurt and sit around the campfire, observing the daily routines that take place. This helps to build good relationships with parents from the very beginning. Mealtimes are sociable occasions where the childminder encourages children to share their views of how their day has been. This provides children with good opportunities to explore and manage their own feelings. Children enjoy the regular access to the outdoor area. However, there is scope to increase opportunities that support the development of children's physical skills, such as climbing. Children's behaviour is well-managed. The childminder has created a welcoming environment where children show care, consideration and respect towards each other. This helps children to feel safe and secure.

Outcomes for children are good

Outcomes for children are good. Children develop the necessary skills they need in readiness for school. The childminder regularly monitors, observes and assesses children's progress. She recognises when children are at risk of falling behind in their development and seeks support at the earliest opportunity for those children that need it. This helps to ensure that children receive timely interventions. However, there is room to collect further detailed information about children's starting points to help inform initial activities. Most children are working at development levels typical for their age with some children exceeding these levels. This demonstrates that children are making good progress in the childminder's care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY448951
Local authority	Calderdale
Inspection number	1084638
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	31 January 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2012 on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She lives with her son and husband who she co-child minds with. She lives in a house in Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire. The childminder is Steiner inspired and is qualified to degree level in Steiner Waldorf Early Childhood Education and Care and also holds Early Years Professional Status. The childminder operates all year round and is open Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. The childminder closes for bank holidays and family holidays.

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