

Childminder Report

Inspection date

16 August 2017

Previous inspection date

21 September 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	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

- Since the last inspection, the childminder has worked hard to improve her practice. She has acted on professional advice, attended further training and strengthened her systems for assessing children's skills. Consequently, teaching is effective and the overall quality of her setting is now good.
- The childminder has been caring for children for many years and her experience has a positive effect on children's outcomes. Her gentle and nurturing approach enables children to form strong attachments to her and feel emotionally secure.
- The playroom is inviting for children and well equipped with a good selection of resources to promote their interests and skills. Children know where things are stored and are confident to make independent choices in their play.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. The childminder exchanges a range of information to help involve parents in children's learning. Parents report that they trust the childminder and say, 'Children love coming and enjoy all of the activities'.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder is still in the process of developing her outdoor provision. This means children who enjoy learning outdoors are not always given enough stimulating and challenging experiences to help them make the best possible progress.

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 children to enjoy a broader range of exciting learning experiences in the outdoor environment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities 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 discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection and took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Jan Linsdell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder attends training to refresh her knowledge of child protection and keeps detailed information on file regarding local procedures. Consequently, she knows what to do if she suspects children are at risk of harm. Documents to promote children's safety and welfare are well organised and maintained. Risk assessments are updated to include any changes to the environment and the steps taken to assure children's safety. The childminder evaluates her practice well and uses feedback from parents to help her consider ways to improve. She has joined an online childminding network, which enables her to access information and support. Further training has helped the childminder to improve her skills in observing and assessing children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder keeps a close check on children's progress and accurately assesses their skills. She also carries out a detailed assessment to make sure children have the necessary skills they need to be ready for school. The childminder shows good teaching skills; for example, when she makes 'fairy dough' with children. She encourages children to persevere with tasks and introduces simple mathematical ideas to help them learn about size, quality, counting and measuring. The childminder asks questions to encourage children to think and explains the meaning of new words, such as kneading. Useful summary reports are shared with parents to help keep them informed of their children's ongoing progress. This contributes to supporting children's learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are very happy in the childminder's company and are very much at ease in their surroundings. The childminder promotes children's good health. She offers healthy snacks and talks to children about foods that are good for them to eat. Children remember to wash their hands after visiting the bathroom and show good physical ability, for instance, when they use the climbing frame. Children are well behaved and like to be helpful. They have regular opportunities to form friendships with other children when they visit toddler groups. Children also enjoy some experiences in the community, such as picking blackberries in the park or travelling on the bus to the beach.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress during their time with the childminder and learn to be sociable, independent and ready for school. They communicate confidently with adults; for instance, when they talk about their experiences during a recent family holiday. Children learn to recognise sounds that letters represent and can suggest words that begin with a certain letter. They concentrate for long periods on activities that capture their attention and help to build their small-muscle skills in readiness for early writing.

Setting details

Unique reference number	306058
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	1107525
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	21 September 2016
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1989 and lives in Wirral. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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